FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARMY COMMITS ITSELF TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

PY102209 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2247 GMT 7 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Mar (NA)--The army today publicly announced its promise to contribute to "seeking a fundamental agreement through dialog with the various opinion sectors of the nation" within the framework of the National Reorganization Process [PRN].

A communique released at the end of a 2-day plenary meeting of generals made a synthesis of the directives for 1980 given by the army commander, Lt Gen Leopoldo Galtieri, adding that the goal will be to "establish a genuine, authentically representative democracy with full validity for our republican principles and with genuine and effective federalism."

The plenary meeting began yesterday and ended today with a session attended by the commander and the major generals. In the afternoon, all the generals (brigadier and major generals) received Galtieri's directives for 1980. Regarding the guidelines given by General Galtieri, the army headquarters communique says:

"As to the tasks to be fulfilled within the PRN framework, the directives contain the following concepts, among others:

"The firm will to contribute to establishing a genuine, authentically representative democracy with full validity for our republican principles and with genuine and effective federalism.

"The need to explain and spread the values, principles and concepts which form the ideological system serving that desired democracy, because the latter will not be real, stable or useful unless that system is accepted by all Argentines.

"In synthesis, the objective is to revive the republic, but it should be a great republic. This objective must be inexorably achieved, because the future of the nation depends on it.

"The great importance of the action which began with the publication of the 'political bases' and which will now continue with the dialog, because of the significance of that action for the gradual institutional normalization of the country.

"The importance of seeking a fundamental agreement through dialog with the various opinion sectors of the nation regarding the system which should guide the republic, because, without such a system, it will not be possible to establish a stable and suitable future institutional structure.

"Support for the actions of the government on its various levels so that it can reach its objectives for the common good of national interests.

"For each one of the aspects contained in the directives which refer to these subjects, the army commander gave instructions about the manner in which the army should participate. In the specifically military field, he gave specific orders for the preparation of the army in order to meet operational demands deriving from [words indistinct]. "The commander in chief then commented on some topics of interest related to the progress of [word indistinct] and specific army problems."

Yesterday afternoon, General Galtieri opened the meeting with all the generals. They were then addressed by Interior Minister Albano Harguindeguy, Social Welfare Minister Jorge Fraga and Labor Minister Llamil Reston, "who attended by order of the (?president) at the request of the army commander," it was officially reported yesterday.

REMARKS BY CHILE'S ADMIRAL MERINO CAUSE IRRITATION

FY072255 Paris AFP in Spanish 0222 GMT 7 Mar 80 FY

[By Victor Lapegna]

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 6 Mar (AFP)--The remarks made by the commander of the Chilean Navy, Adm Jose Merino, about an Argentine-Soviet alliance aimed at confronting accusations on human rights violations, have created irritation in official circles and denials in the Argentine press here today.

The morning newspaper CONVICCION, considered to be a supporter of the opinions of the Argentine Navy, labeled Admiral Merino's remarks to the government-oriented Chilean magazine ERCILLA as "unusual and irresponsible." The afternoon newspaper LA RAZON, supporter of the government, recalled that "all the great powers constantly send to the Antarctic and its adjacent seas their best scientific research ships equipped with the most modern instruments."

The press comments are in answer to Merino's remarks which indicated that the presence of the Soviet oceanographic ship Akademik Krylov in Argentine ports is for the purpose of carrying out a spy mission in the Drake Sea, an area which he believes to be a strategic zone in the current international geopolitical dispute.

Sources linked to the Argentine high military command said that Admiral Merino's remarks created profound irritation in the Argentine Navy. Chile and Argentina have a border conflict precisely in the southern zone. The same sources indicated that Merino's remarks may be aimed at throwing wood on the fire at a time when the border conflict is being discussed in the Vatican by Argentine and Chilean representatives in the mediation of the conflict being carried out by Pope John Paul II.

Until now no official spokesman has commented on Admiral Merino's remarks, but in informal conversations officers of the Argentine Navy recalled that in September and October of 1977 Argentine naval ships captured Soviet fishing ships which were operating in Argentine jurisdictional waters and imposed heavy fines on them.

These comments are in answer to Merino's accusations of an Argentine-Soviet alliance, an alliance which is also mentioned in some Argentine political circles. For example, Peronist youth groups and some sectors of liberal tendency did not hide their concern over the current state of relations between Buenos Aires and Moscow, which coincides with a period of high tension between Argentina and the United States.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS FOREIGN MEDDLING IN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

FY110024 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2319 GMT 10 Mar 80 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Mar (NA)--Argentina today rejected every form of foreign interference aimed at restricting its nuclear development and stated that "since the production of nuclear weapons is entirely dependent upon each country's decision, it cannot be prevented through restrictions imposed on the transfer of technology."

This position was adopted at a meeting held at the Foreign Ministry today, during which the national decision "to use nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes" was reaffirmed.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Carlos Pastor, Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Nuclear Energy Commission, and Roberto Guyer and Esteban Takacs, Argentine ambassadors to the FRG and Canada, respectively, countries with which Argentina has signed nuclear development agreements.

GUEILER SWEARS IN NEW FINANCE MINISTER

PY110127 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Tonight at 1900 Interim President Lidia Gueiler Tejada swore in Adolfo Aramayo (Ance) as new finance minister; he had been holding the post of under secretary for financial administration. The ceremony took place in the Mirror Room and was attended only by the labor minister, the integration minister, the secretary of the presidency and the press and information secretary. In a short speech the president said that the economic policy of her government should continue and that she had appointed Aramayo (Ance) for that reason--to give continuity to the mission of the executive branch.

In his reply the new minister, who replaces Augusto Cuadros, who resigned, stressed that it is necessary to undertake a cleaning-up of the administrative policy of the country in order to consolidate the objectives which have been established to achieve a [word indistinct] economic development. He also emphasized that it is necessary to put public finances and the administration of our monetary resources in order. He also asserted that under the present circumstances maximum priority should be given to reducing the deficit in our balance of payments and to a more stringent control of public expenditures. Adolfo Aramayo (Ance) has held posts in public administration since 1960, holding various offices in the Industry Ministry and lately in the Finance Ministry. The new minister has taken university courses in Chile and was also a UN official working in Africa.

POLITICAL PARTIES DENOUNCE ARREST OF MEMBERS

PA092302 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1707 GMT 9 Mar 80 PA

[Text] La Paz, 9 Mar (LATIN)--The Bolivian Interior Ministry has ordered the arrest of at least five regional leaders and members of political parties accused of being involved in subversive activities, according to rightist leader Jaime Ponce Caballero, member of the Bolivian Socialist Falange's [FSB] Central Committee. Ponce Caballero affirmed that the government's security organizations have arrested his companeros Cesar Miranda, Jaime Lazo de la Vega, Victor Tempo, Rodolfo Zuna and Humberto Cadima in Oruro, a city located 350 km southeast of La Paz. Simultaneously, newspaper reports from Oruro, which is a large mining center, stated that several members of the Nationalist Democratic Action [ADN] were also arrested, while others are on the run from the onslaught of the state's security organizations. Interior Minister Jorge Selum Vaca Diez charged several days ago that members of the ADN, headed by former President Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, as well as the FSB were involved in "conspiratorial plots." However, the government has released no official statement on the supposed arrests reported by the two political organizations.

INTELLIGENCE CHIEF PREPARING TO ARREST SUBVERSIVES

PY101825 La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Excerpt] Col (Luis Arce), head of the army's intelligence department, has said that he is in a position to give the names of persons who have committed terrorist acts. Colonel (Arce) said that his department needs to coordinate its action with the Interior Ministry to arrest all these subversives, who undoubtedly follow a well-defined political directive. He revealed this as he came out of a meeting with President Lidia Gueiler.

PROGOVERNMENT PARTY GAINS CONTROL OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

FY102048 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Mar 80 p 5 FY

[Text] In addition to firming up the Social Democratic Party's [PDS] control of the Congress, the party reorganization has allowed several state governments to retain control over their respective legislative assemblies and in some cases to reverse the clearly favorable situation of the opposition. The best example of such a change has been in Sao Paulo, where the progovernment party will now have an absolute majority after losing two-thirds of the assembly to the defunct Brazilian Democratic Movement during the previous elections.

Throughout the country the PDS has 481 deputies in the legislative assemblies against 178 for the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB], 100 for the Popular Party [PP], 45 for the Brazilian Labor Party [PTB] and only 8 for the Workers Party [PT]. The 31 state deputies who are still uncommitted can do little or nothing to change this situation. However, in the states of Minas Gerais, the dispute between factions of the defunct UDN [National Democratic Union] and the old PSD [Social Democratic Party] could sway PDS members toward the PP.

PP Controls Rio de Janeiro

FY102055 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Ma. 80 p 5 FY

[Excerpt] The Popular Party [PP] retains absolute control of the legislative assembly in Rio de Janeiro with 47 of the 70 deputies, leaving only 12 seats for the Social Democratic Party [PDS], 5 for the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB], 4 for the Brazilian Labor Party [PTB] and 1 for the Workers Party [PT]. In Rio de Janeiro, the only state where the PDS has no absolute majority in the legislative assembly, there is only one uncommitted deputy, Rockefeller de Lima, who could still join and increase the number of PP representatives. Everything indicates that the local PMDB, PTB and PT organizations will join forces to defend points which are common to their programs, although it must have been decided that they will not make any alliance with the official party to fight against Governor Chagas Freitas [the only opposition governor in Brazil; member of the defunct Brazilian Democratic Movement--MDB].

NUCLEAR PLANT CONSTRUCTION DELAY PROVES COSTLY

FY101659 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Mar 80 p 33 FY

[Excerpts] Licinio Seabra, president of FURNAS electric company, revealed yesterday that a new project for the foundations of nuclear plant Angra 2 has been approved. The new project consists of the reinforcement of 202 piles which are already in place and the sinking of 88 new ones. The need for this new foundation project has caused a 2-year delay which has added $326 million to the cost of Angra 2 and which will delay the start of construction on Angra 3. When the first nuclear plant goes into operation by March 1981, there will be a 10- to 15-percent rise in electricity rates.

Seabra said that the preparation of the new project alone will cost $1 million, and that FURNAS wants the Kraftwerk Union [KWU] and the NUCLEBRAS [Brazilian Nuclear Corporations] subsidiary NUCLEN [NUCLEBRAS Engineering, Inc.] to help pay this extra cost, since the FRG company had to contract new consultants because the former consultant--Zerna Institute--was not properly equipped to meet the requirements demanded by the National Nuclear Energy Commission [CNEN].

The new project, which was prepared by the KWU, and which was checked by technicians of and consultants to the CNEN, FURNAS, KWU and NUCLEN, provides for the reinforcement of the top part of 202 piles which are already in place, maintaining their 1.10-meter diameter to a depth of 5 meters and 1.30-meter diameter to a depth of 12 meters, and for the sinking of 88 new piles to an average depth of 15 meters, with diameters of 1.30 meters and 1.80 meters.

The cost of the reinforcement is estimated at $5 million at current exchange rates. This figure, as the president of FURNAS said, represents 1 percent of the civil engineering cost of the entire plant or 0.25 percent of the cost of the plant, which is estimated at $2 billion, excluding financial costs which already stand at the $1.25 billion mark. As a result of this, the next nuclear plant, Angra 3, although no site has yet been chosen for it, already has an additional financial cost of $80 million.

Since the piles must be reinforced, the construction of the slab which is to go on top of the piles will begin only in April 1981, thus postponing the plant's commerical operation until the second half of 1987. Since the construction of Angra 3 must follow 1 and 1/2 years behind the construction of Angra 2 to facilitate work at the construction site, Angra 3 will be able to go into operation only in 1989, provided no other delay occurs.

AMBASSADOR TO BOGOTA WOUNDED IN EMBASSY TAKEOVER

PY102332 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Itamaraty reported today that Brazilian Ambassador Geraldo Eulalio do Nascimento e Silva, one of the hostages being held at the Dominican Republic's Embassy in Bogota, was shot in the leg twice during the invasion of the embassy by guerrillas belonging to the M-19 movement.

According to the Foreign Ministry, the wounds are not serious and are already healing.

SALE OF SHOES TO USSR SEEN AS REACTIVATION OF TRADE

PY101739 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL 8 Mar 80 p 16 PY

[By JORNAL DO BRASIL correspondent in Moscow, Noenio Spinola]

[Excerpts] An agreement to import shoes was simply and quietly signed yesterday between the Soviet enterprise V/O Raznoeksport and COMEXPORT, a trading company which represents several Brazilian industries interested in exporting manufactured products.

The quantity and the value of the merchandise are small: approximately $1.5 million for 70,000 pairs of shoes. However, the operation acquires special characteristics if it is viewed as a resumption of trade between Brazil and the USSR after the Afghan crisis.

It is true that trade was never formally severed, but if the Brazilian Government had made the political decision to terminate private projects COMEXPORT, which represents 25 industries of the nation's capital, would not have closed its deal in Moscow.

Two Brazilian firms are involved in the deal: one from Franca in Sao Paulo State and another from Rio Grande do Sul. The terms of the transaction were established last Friday: fob from the port of Santos, where the merchandise would be picked up by USSR freighters. COMEXPORT agents indicated that some problems had to be overcome as a result of prior sales to the Soviet Union which had somewhat harmed the image of the country. For this very reason the order had been viewed as experimental.

PINOCHET DISCOUNTS PARTIES IN NEW CONSTITUTION

PY102242 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Relay from Government House by (Graciela Contreras)]

[Excerpts] "There is democracy in Chile; people live peacefully here," President Augusto Pinochet said this morning to the Inter-American Defense School delegation that is visiting Chile. The delegation, which is headed by Adm (Robert Connally), arrived here last Saturday in response to an invitation extended by its counterpart, the Chilean Superior School of National Security. The members of the delegation, which is made up of civilians and military officers, among whom are two women, met this morning with President Pinochet in the Blue Room of the Diego Portales Building.

In addition to welcoming the delegation to Chile, the president made some remarks regarding national leadership.

[Begin Pinochet recording] I am very pleased to welcome you to Chile. We are pleased because we are honored by your visit and because we will be able to show you our real situation. You will see for yourselves how this country has recovered in these past 6 years and also how by ourselves we have been able to improve our economy and how we have been able to maintain peace and tranquillity in our land.

There is democracy in Chile. You will be able to see for yourselves that people here enjoy democracy despite the fact that this is an authoritarian government, a government that is contrary to communist procedures. [sentence as heard]

We are in the process of studying a new constitution, and although I may sound a little vain, I believe it will enable us to live in peace and tranquillity. It will block the entrance of Soviet Marxism. I say it will block Marxism because if any door is left open, Marxism will use it to penetrate our country. In spite of politicians, this constitution does not contemplate political parties because if there were any, Marxism would infiltrate them or surge forward as a political movement. Consequently, the mere thought of a communist party means that it would have the same chance as any other political party to achieve power. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT BLOCKS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FETE

PY080026 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Mar 80 PY

[Text] The government today denied a request submitted by the women's section of a juridically nonexistent organization called National Union Coordination. The reason for this denial was explained this afternoon in a note released by the social communications division, which point out that the request was for authorization to carry out several acts to celebrate the so-called International Women's Day, an event which is used by Marxism-Leninism for its own interests.

The note says that the government reiterates that according to current regulations of the state of emergency, those who participate in demonstrations without the appropriate authorization will be subject to the sanctions of the law.

Illegal Demonstration Held

PY102255 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0642 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Chilean police yesterday detained approximately 40 persons when they tried to hold an unauthorized political demonstration in the downtown area. The demonstrators were trying to commemorate "International Women's Year" although the government had previously prohibited this ceremony. A few hours after this incident took place laywers from the Catholic Church Vicariate of Solidarity submitted an appeal for protection [recurso de amparo] on behalf of the 33 detainees. The police patrol unit reported that police agents were forced to intervene after some provocateurs entered shops such as "Falabella" and others.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS BANISHED FOR SUBVERSIVE ACTS

PY102227 Paris AFP in Spanish 1725 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Iquique, Chile, 10 Mar (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Iquique court of appeals has sentenced four students to banishment in places far from their home towns.

The students, who were charged with carrying out subversive activities and plotting against the military government of President Augusto Pinochet, will not be eligible to hold public or government office for life.

They are: Juana Cortes Bravo, Fernando Ramirez Fuentes, Ricardo Bugueno and Patricio Alcaraz Zuanich. All of them are university students and militant members of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). The four students were detained in Arica, near the border with Peru, in 1975, when they were members of an MIR cell.

The students, who were indicted in first instance [primera instancia] by a special government attorney, must be confined for 541 days in towns that are between 1,200 and 2,000 km from their homes.

SAFE-CONDUCTS GRANTED TO TWO MIR MEMBERS

PY110138 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1825 GMT 10 Mar 80 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 10 Mar (LATIN)--A Chilean Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that the Chilean Government has granted safe-conduct papers to two leftists who are under asylum at the Venezuelan Embassy in Santiago so that they may leave the country.

Jaime Lagos, Foreign Ministry bilateral policy department director, today told journalists that safe-conduct papers have been granted to Ignacio Salas Salas and Luis Mella, who have been refugees at the diplomatic mission since last July. Both Salas and Mella are militants of the outlawed Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR). They sought refuge at the embassy when they were being sought by security and police forces for perpetrating several bomb attacks and shootouts with police.

The Venezuelan Government had granted political asylum to Salas, while Mella was declared a "guest" of the government. With the issuance of the safe-conduct papers, however, he will now be able to leave Chile and live in any country that wishes to accept him as a resident. Lagos noted that this process should be handled by Venezuela.

REPORTAGE ON NEGOTIATIONS TO FREE EMBASSY HOSTAGES

Talks Enter 'Ultrasecret Stage'

PA101601 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1402 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] Bogota, 10 Mar (EFE)--The negotiations between the Colombian Government and the M-19 guerrillas to obtain the release of the hostages in the Dominican Embassy have entered an "ultrasecret stage" this week in view of the hard position maintained by the two parties, observers have assessed here. A reliable source told the EFE agency that the Colombian Government decided to prevent any leaks to the press of the negotiations with the M-19 guerrillas because the situation has entered one its most difficult stages following the third round of talks last Saturday. The same sources indicated that high military commands warned President Turbay Ayala that he could not give in to the M-19 guerrilla demands inasmuch as it would be tantamount to permitting the advance of terrorism in the country, thus seriously threatening democratic stability in the future. The only firm alternative that the government maintains as a way out of the delicate situation in the Dominican Embassy is reportedly to provide an airplane to the guerrillas so they can leave the country with all the hostages.

President Turbay Ayala apparently consulted the governments whose ambassadors are being held hostage. They decided to empower him to resolve the situation as best he could without endangering the lives of the diplomats. It was also learned from the same sources that the military intelligence service has fully identified the guerrillas occupying the Dominican Embassy and is presently drafting security plans to attempt to liberate the hostages without any bloodshed.

Finally, it was learned that the Colombian Government will maintain total secrecy regarding the negotiations with the M-19 guerrillas to prevent any hasty developments from taking a course that would endanger the lives of the hostages. The government, as of today, Monday, will handle the situation with much tact, since the Dominican Embassy issue has entered its third week without anything official being released to the press about a possible solution in the future.

Dialog Resumes 10 Mar

PA102040 Paris AFP in Spanish 2020 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (AFP)--The negotiations between guerrillas of the M-19 clandestine movement and the Colombian Government aimed at obtaining the release of the diplomats being held hostage in the Dominican Embassy in Bogota were resumed here today at 1500 local time (2000 GMT).

Talks End; Results Unknown

PA102214 Paris AFP in Spanish 2157 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (AFP)--New talks concerning the release of foreign diplomats held hostage by guerrillas at the Dominican Embassy ended here today after 1 hour and 40 minutes. So far, nothing has been learned about this fourth session of negotiations between two delegates of President Julio Cesar Turbay and a female guerrilla who is the representative of the 19 April Movement guerrillas as well as Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan, who served as a witness.

Government Communique No 14

PA110152 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Communique No 14 issued by the Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic on 10 March in Bogota; read by Marta Montoya, information secretary of the presidency--recorded]

[Text] The Information Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic reports that on 10 March government representatives Camilo Jimenez and Ramiro Zambrano and a representative of the subversive group which is occupying the Dominican Embassy held their fourth meeting. Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan was also present. The talks which were held in a peaceful atmosphere began at 1500 and ended at 1642. The parties involved expressed their best intentions to continue the conversations. The date of the next meeting will be announced through the usual channels.

Guerrillas Reportedly Reduce Demands

PA110331 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0313 GMT 11 Mar 80 PA

[By Jorge Matiz]

[Text] Bogota, 10 Mar (LATIN)--A diplomatic source revealed tonight that the leftist guerrillas who are occupying the Dominican Embassy in this capital have reportedly reduced to 70 the number of "political prisoners" whom they want released in exchange for the diplomats they are holding hostage there.

The source, who asked not to be identified, told LATIN that the guerrillas proposed during the fourth dialog with the government today the release of 70 "political prisoners" rather than the 311 initially requested. In addition, they have reportedly reduced the ransom demand to $10 from the initial $50 million.

The same source said the guerrillas considered their demand that a 19 April Movement (M-19) communique be published in all the countries that [words indistinct] is superfluous because their purpose was achieved by the publicity given to the occupation throughout the world. The source quoted Mexican Ambassador Ricardo Galan as having told the government negotiators that "on behalf of all the hostages, I beg the Colombian Government to avoid a violent action."

The M-19 guerrillas have been holding at least 30 hostages, including 12 ambassadors, in the Dominican Embassy since 27 February.

'Irresponsible' Reporting Criticized

PA110240 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[By Oscar Dominguez]

[Excerpt] Communications Minister Jose Manuel Arias Carrizosa today affirmed that the government will not take any military action to seize the Dominican Embassy if no harm is done to the hostages. He said this in a note to the AFP director in Colombia in connection with a report AFP distributed to its clients throughout the world yesterday in which, based on an anonymous call, AFP reported that military forces were going to seize the Dominican Embassy at 2000.

In his note to the AFP director, Minister Arias Carrizosa says that this irresponsible report had no foundation and warns the AFP director against distributing news of such nature obtained from dubious sources because it could lead to the cancellation of the credentials of the person who wrote the report or of the director of the news agency which distributed it. However, on this occasion, due to the desire to maintain a climate of understanding and so that no one could say that the government is preventing the news media from doing its duty, no punitive measure will be taken against the aforementioned news agency.

LIBERAL PARTY AHEAD IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

PA101732 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Bogota--The governing Liberal Party, according to the second official communique issued at dawn today in Bogota, is clearly ahead in the elections held on Sunday. The Conservative Party, which shares the government with the Liberals, is in second place followed far behind by the leftist and socialist opposition. However, the data obtained this morning gives no idea of the absenteeism factor. It has been unofficially estimated, though, that at least 65 percent of the potential voters did not vote.

The second bulletin issued by the National Register of the Civil State shortly before 1000 GMT, 0500 Bogota time, gave the following voting figures: Liberals, 450,465; Conservatives, 351,274; the People's United Front--in the opposition--4,739; Democratic Front, 14,191; Socialists, 1,076; others, 13,717; blank votes, 1,400; null 948.

It is worthwhile noting that these results include 403 municipalities, that is, a little less than 50 percent of the municipalities. These results do not include the voting in Bogota, which is a special district and where the counts are facing an unexplainable delay since the figures available when the bulletin was issued accounted for only 8 percent of the votes. However, in Bogota a general trend was also evident, with the opposition facing stagnation and even setbacks.

BUSINESSMEN PROTEST VENEZUELAN TREATMENT OF IMMIGRANTS

PA110145 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] A meeting of Colombian businessmen held this weekend in Cucuta urged the Venezuelan Government to treat immigrants in Venezuela better. The Venezuelan Government is compelled to observe the (?Sonchala) Treaty, a National Federation of Businessmen [FENALCO] spokesman said.

According to the Colombian FENALCO, the Venezuelan Government mistreats Colombians deported to our country.

The businessmen agreed to hear persons who have been deported, humiliated and mistreated by Venezuelan officials. The forum also advised the Organization of Social Aid for Colombians Deported from Venezuela.

The recommendations of the FENALCO meeting in Cucuta will be presented this week to President Turbay Ayala.

LAWYER FOR IRAN SAYS SHAH'S EXTRADITION 'INEVITABLE'

PA110201 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2354 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Text] Panama City, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Juan Materno Vasquez, the lawyer who is representing Iran's interests, said in exclusive statements to ACAN-EFE today that the shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, will not be able to refute the evidence being prepared against him by the Iranian Government and will inevitably have to be extradited.

Materno Vasquez, who has just returned from Iran, said he possesses "irrefutable proof" that the shah committed five serious crimes: misuse of public funds, embezzlement of public funds (peculation), illicit abuse of power for economic purposes (extortion), torture and genocide.

"If the shah were to be tried in Panamanian courts with the available evidence, there is no doubt that he would feel the full weight of the law," said Materno Vasquez, former president of the Supreme Court of Justice and former minister of government and justice.

One piece of evidence in the hands of the lawyer is an extensive document signed by the Iranian emperor himself in which he gives instructions on how the security corps were to handle subversion in general and student subversion in particular.

Another piece of evidence is an authenticated statement by Lt Gen Housang Hatar, who for some time served as chief of national security, stating that "the shah personally gave specific instructions to the chief of the SAVAK (political police)."

The Panamanian lawyer also said that "if the Panamanian Government agrees to extradite the shah, the Government of Iran will guarantee that he will not receive a death sentence."

"Moreover, Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh would be willing to come to Panama to sign the necessary protocols," he added.

The lawyer who is representing Iranian interests feels that, in view of the existing evidence, the claim made by Shah Reza Pahlavi in his defense--that he knew nothing of the human rights violations committed in Iran during his period in power--cannot be true.

In the next few days, in the name of the Iranian Government, Materno Vasquez will present to Panamanian authorities a request for the arrest of the deposed shah of Iran. Panama will have to reach a decision on the request for extradition before the end of April.

"My main objective is to demonstrate to the Panamanian Government and the public that the crimes for which the shah's extradition is being sought are only common crimes, not political ones," Materno Vasquez said.

As evidence he cited the UN convention on genocide of 1948, signed by Panama and Iran, which has an article clearly establishing that "the crime of genocide can never be considered a political crime for extradition purposes." He later added: "We are not even going to ask Panama to consider the crime of genocide."

Asked whether the extradition move is not really a propaganda campaign, Materno Vasquez said: "If those 50 U.S. hostages in Tehran did not exist, perhaps you could believe that, but those hostages prove that this is a very serious matter."

Regarding the amount presumably stolen by the shah during his reign, Materno Vasquez refused to give a figure but said that it involved "billions."

The shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, arrived in Panama on 15 December 1979 from a military base in Texas. On that same day, he took up residence on the Panamanian island of Contadora after Panamanian President Aristides Royo reported that Panama had granted him political asylum "for humanitarian reasons."

Since then the shah has lived on Contadora Island, located 20 minutes by air from Panama City in the Pacific Ocean. He is surrounded by a very costly and sophisticated personal security system.

FOUR SUSPENDED COMMENTATORS TAKE CASE TO COURTS

PA101247 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 10 Mar 80 p 1 PA

[Text] After a week of political agitation the case of the four opposition radio commentators whose licenses were cancelled by the government will now go before the courts for a ruling.

The government charged the commentators with using their radio programs to insult President Aristides Royo and other top government officials.

A suit filed against the license cancellation order will be ruled upon by a municipal judge, since members of the Supreme Court are on vacation, and will not return until the end of March.

"The high court will have the last word," said a source close to the judiciary. "Meanwhile, a decision by the municipal judge will remain in effect until the month of April," he added.

The suit calls for the immediate suspension of the four resolutions issued by the Ministry of Government and Justice, calling for the definite cancellation of licenses issued to commentators Julio Ortega of Radio Mia, Milciades Ortiz, Luis Pimentel and Miguel Antonio Bernal of Radio Hogar.

Ortega, Ortiz and Pimentel are openly anti-communists. Bernal, on the other hand, is a lawyer and university professor of extreme leftist leanings who was in exile for two years. He was permitted to return to Panama only after the U.S. Senate ratified the Torrijos-Carter treaties in April, 1978.

EL SALVADOR

RENEWED WAVE OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE CAUSES DEATHS

PA101747 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1647 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Twenty-eight Salvadorans have died in the last 48 hours as a result of a wave of political violence gripping this small Central American country.

The authorities said that four students died in San Vicente, 60 km east of San Salvador, when the army dislodged leftists who had seized a high school building in that city.

Six other people died in San Martin, 18 km east of the Salvadoran capital, during a security corps investigation into the death of a couple that had been traveling on a motorcycle. According to the official version, the motorcyclists were killed by terrorists, who then ambushed the agents when they went to investigate the killing. The report says that the woman traveling on the motorcycle was raped by individuals the authorities describe as "subversives," four of whom died during the clash with the police.

Eleven students died Saturday in San Miguel during an operation that evicted them forcibly from a high school in that city, 138 km east of San Salvador.

On Sunday morning an elderly woman died when the urban service bus in which she was traveling was sprayed with shots by unknown individuals near the national university. According to available reports, a group of security agents was attacked by unidentified persons. In the crossfire that ensued, several shots hit a bus which was passing at that moment and a woman, who was sitting in one of the front seats was killed.

The country is under a state of siege, which was declared at the same time the government enacted a decree of agrarian reform. The agrarian reform was followed by a decree nationalizing the banks.

No Salvadoran radio stations carry any news. The decision seems to have been adopted by the stations themselves and does not stem from direct orders from the Revolutionary Government Junta.

UNIDENTIFIED FAPU LEADER SHOT TO DEATH

PA101604 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1545 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] We have been informed from San Salvador that the propaganda secretary of the United Popular Action Front [FAPU] has been assassinated. There is much commotion because of this assassination.

According to initial reports, the FAPU leader was chased by a vehicle and shot. So far there are no more details.

POLICE HEADQUARTERS ATTACKED FROM CHURCH

PA102358 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2331 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The press committee of the Salvadoran Armed Forces reported today, Monday, that on Sunday night the main national police headquarters in San Salvador was attacked by leftist activists who were hiding in El Rosario church in the downtown section of the capital.

No casualties were reported on either side.

The press committee reported that the armed forces regrets that the aforementioned church is being used as a base for armed attacks against public security and military institutions. It added that it is hoped that the church would resume its primary function, "which is to serve as a place for prayer and spiritual reflection."

The report adds that on several occasions in the past, persons have fired at the police headquarters from inside El Rosario church.

CALM PREVAILS FOLLOWING VIOLENT WEEKEND

PA1OO417 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0024 GMT 11 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Relative calm prevails in El Salvador after violent clashes which resulted in 21 deaths when leftist militants clashed with the authorities who evicted them from occupied government high schools in the eastern part of the country.

Today, Monday afternoon, eight members of United Popular Action Front [FAPU] were buried. They had died in various parts of the country. FAPU leaders said that these persons had been kidnaped by unidentified persons and that hours later their bodies were found in various places.

The most recent victims of this wave of violence were taken to the metropolitan cathedral. Six of them were buried at the general cemetery and two of them, university students Raul Hernandez and Carlos Arias, were buried in front of the School of Medicine in the northern part of the city.

Although the situation is normal in San Salvador, the armed forces revealed today that last night, Sunday, leftists who sought refuge at El Rosario church, in downtown San Salvador, had fired on the National Police Central. No casualties were reported. It was also reported that a bomb had exploded this afternoon in the northern part of San Salvador, without causing much damage.

The combined army and security corps patrols continue active in all parts of the country to guarantee a normal situation.

A 30-day state of siege was imposed here on 6 March. On this date an agrarian reform program was put into operation and 24 hours later the Revolutionary Government Junta nationalized private banks.

Senior employees of several foreign banks feared they would be dismissed since, according to the nationalization decree, foreign banks operating here cannot keep checking on savings accounts.

Meanwhile radio stations continue broadcasting without their usual newscasts. A high-ranking government official, consulted this afternoon on the matter, told ACAN-EFE that radio news programs would be resumed shortly.

Various Salvadoran sectors were surprised when several government institutions contracted a publicity agency, which praised the good qualities of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's regime, to do their publicity. According to unofficial reports the publicity agency will receive over $115,000 to carry out publicity for several of the present government's agencies.

Christian Democratic Party [PDC] members and other government collaborators expressed their distrust through various Salvadoran news media.

The Romero regime was overthrown last 15 October for promoting administrative corruption and for violating human rights and this publicity agency tried to whitewash the failings of the former president and his collaborators.

Today, the National Association of Private Enterprise [ANEP] announced publicly that it would ask the Interior Ministry for permission to criticize on television the agrarian reform and other structural changes began by the government junta. The Interior Ministry said tonight that ANEP leaders had not yet contacted the ministry. The state of siege restricts freedom of expression.

The National Association of Salvadoran Educators [ANDES] is today on its seventh day of a strike which will end tomorrow, Tuesday. The ANDES is a member of the People's Revolutionary Bloc.

The teachers strike has been partially observed in rural areas, but in San Salvador most schools closed in support of the strike or through fear. ANDES demands an end to the murder of teachers by unidentified persons.

The armed forces reasserted its determination to maintain order throughout the country. The government has not given any immediate reply to criticism made by Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez, archbishop of San Salvador, to the agrarian reform programs and to the nationalization of private banks. The extreme right and left have made no comment on the latest government measures included in the armed forces proclamation issued on 15 October 1979 when Gen Carlos Humberto Romero was overthrown.

PDC'S NAPOLEON DUARTE JOINS GOVERNMENT JUNTA

PA110305 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0202 GMT 11 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Jose Napoleon Duarte, leader of the Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party [PDC], tonight assumed a post in the Government Revolutionary Junta of El Salvador.

Duarte was nominated to the post by a national party convention last Sunday. He replaces another PDC member, Hector Dada, who resigned his post at the beginning of this month.

"I have come to form part of a work team without personal ambitions or sectarian attitudes of any kind," the PDC leader said when assuming the post. He is the seventh civilian to hold a post in the ruling group since 15 October when the Salvadoran Armed Forces overthrew Gen Carlos Humberto Romero's regime. Duarte emphasized the important achievements attained by the junta during the few months in power. It has decreed the nationalization of private banks and of foreign trade, and implemented an agrarian reform that should benefit some 70,000 peasants. The reform decree expropriated 376 landholdings owned by 244 persons and covering over 224,000 hectares.

Duarte urged Salvadorans "to hold a dialog and seek the road to peace in order to attain a social pact that will allow the country to progress."

El Salvador is affected by an acute political crisis characterized by an unabated violence which causes hundreds of deaths every week.

JUNTA MEMBERS HOLD NEWS CONFERENCE, CONDEMN VIOLENCE

PA110418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0221 GMT 11 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 10 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran revolutionary junta tonight condemned the violence being experienced in this Central American country, noting at the same time that "it will never agree to make changes with repression."

Junta member Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich said: We must find peace especially for the benefit of the poor.

The junta members met with newsmen after the ceremony to swear in new junta member Jose Napoleon Duarte who was nominated for the post on Sunday by a national convention of his party, the Christian Democratic Party.

Col Adolfo Arnoldo Majano said that the peasants have viewed "with satisfaction" the promulgation of the agrarian reform for this Central American country which has 21,000 square km and 5.5 million inhabitants. Majano and the other junta member, Jose Ramon Avalos, toured several of the expropriated lands on Saturday.

The junta also announced an increase in the price of fuels. A gallon of super gasoline will cost $2.04 instead of $1.75 effective tomorrow. A gallon of regular gasoline will go up to $1.97 from $1.59. The price of diesel fuel will also go up from $0.90 to $1.26.

The junta explained that it does not plan to nationalize the media, adding that there are no other reforms planned for the moment.

POPULAR FACTION RESIGNS FROM PDC AT CONVENTION

PA110138 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 10 Mar 80 pp 1, 2 PA

[Text] The Popular Faction of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] yesterday submitted its resignation from the party at the PDC national convention. It disagrees with the decorative role the party is playing in the government, its ineptitude, and its failure to curb the repression carried out by the military regime.

"We deeply regret the degree of decay the PDC has reached by participating in a repressive and unpopular government," Popular Faction member Juan Francisco Martell said. He made this statement to 250 delegates meeting at the headquarters of the Salvadoran Workers Central.

He said that the Popular Faction's position--when it was proposed that the party join the military government--was that the PDC should not participate in a regime which has unleashed the bloodiest repression ever experienced by the Salvadoran people. He said that "the 600 victims of repression between January and February clamor for justice."

The decision to expel the Popular Faction had already been adopted before the PDC special session on the matter was convened, regardless of the faction's position. The faction has 20 percent of the party's delegates to the convention.

Martell said: "Just as they were making demands of us, they should have been making demands of Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia and the heads of the security forces."

"We cannot allow repression to continue because this is not part of the PDC's ideology. We believe in the values of the individual." He said that no agrarian reform or nationalization of banks can be obtained by leaving mountains of corpses. An average of 40 people are killed daily.

"The PDC's role in the government is a decorative one. We ask that human rights be respected. We are not asking for reforms," Martell said. Martell was loudly applauded by the delegates.

He said: "If by saying this we are opposing the principles of Christian Democracy, we would like to be told what Christian Democracy is."

Martell said that the PDC does not control the armed forces, as was proven by the eviction of the PDC's headquarters through a grossly repressive action, without the consent of the top PDC leaders who form part of the government.

He stressed that "the PDC is a silent witness to these murders."

He also said that the PDC does not have any popular support, as could be seen by the rally held by the party last week, which was attended by exactly 720 people. It does not have any power of coercion either.

On reading the resignation on behalf of the other members of the Popular Faction, Martell said: "The party, by participating in the repression unleashed by the military, is joining the orbit of U.S. imperialism and the local bourgeoisie."

He said that the government "has unleashed a war of extermination against popular organizations, and with the system of reforms and repression has cornered the people's movements."

He labeled the top PDC leaders as "obsolete political opportunists. The judgment of history and the thousands of lives that the process will cost will fall on the traitors of the Salvadoran people."

At the end of Martell's speech, there was an embarrassing silence, which was broken by one of the elder delegates, who, in a defiant tone, said that Martell's words were worthless. The delegate said, "We do not need nor do we accept his attacks on the party."

Martell said that the Popular Faction is supported by 20 percent of the party's delegates, and by 80 percent of the party's rank and file.

With the division within the PDC, the government enters into a crisis which will raise an international storm and will make them aware of the present situation.

On the domestic level, it will again show the Salvadoran people that the country's salvation lies in supporting the popular political organizations. It is the sure road to its final liberation.

FPL COMMUNIQUE ASKS FOR MATERIAL, MORAL SUPPORT

PA101945 Managua Radio Catolica in Spanish 1300 GMT 10 Mar 80 PA

[Text] In a communique issued in Mexico, the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces [FPL] asked the world's democratic and progressive organizations for material and moral support to combat the Salvadoran military dictatorship. After indicating that such aid is necessary for the victory of the revolutionary struggle in El Salvador, the guerrilla organization charged that the military junta speaks of economic and social reforms but the people are suffering a cruel repression. It said that, so far in 1980, more than 600 patriots have lost their lives due to the repression.

The communique added that Chalatenango Department is virtually surrounded by Salvadoran Army forces. It also reported a number of guerrilla actions carried out in February. Among these, it mentioned the military occupation of dozens of cantons and small towns, mainly near the cities of Chalatenango and San Vicente. Other actions included the destruction of a National Guard garrison in Acajutla and attacks on trucks of the army and other armed groups which were on their way to repress the rural workers of the northern zone. More than 40 soldiers were killed in military actions, the FPL communique added.

GUATEMALA

NICARAGUAN ARMY COMMANDERS' STATEMENTS DRAW CRITICISM

PA101329 Guatemala City *PRENSA LIBRE* in Spanish 27 Feb 80 p 8 PA

[Text] It is odd that some Sandinist Army commanders say that they are participating in a subversive plan against Guatemala when the Nicaraguan Government has promised to respect the principle of nonintervention in the political problems of our country, Carlos Toledo Vielman, presidential public relations secretary said yesterday.

Toledo Vielman was asked about the statements by Commander Marcos of the above-mentioned army who said in a television broadcast that they were participating in a terrorist plan against Guatemala.

Toledo Vielman said that these statements are very strange, because on various occasions Nicaraguan officials have promised not to interfere in Guatemalan domestic affairs.

The government spokesmen mentioned the meeting held last year between Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez and Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto as well as the visit made by Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz to Managua, where he met with various government officials. According to Toledo Vielman, both Foreign Minister Castillo Valdez as well as Alvarez Ruiz were promised that the Sandinist Army would be respectful of, and would not participate in, the domestic affairs of other countries.

Toledo Vielman added that if the statements made by several Sandinist Army members can be accepted as official, the Guatemalan Government will be respectful of Nicaraguan domestic affairs and believes that the Nicaraguan Government should adopt a similar attitude.

NICARAGUA

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE STATEMENT RELEASED

PA100314 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Mar 80 p 2 PA

[Final declaration issued at the closing ceremony in Managua of the International Conference of Solidarity With the Nicaraguan Revolution on 2 March 1980--passage in capitals published in boldface]

[Text] Representatives of national, regional and international political parties, labor, civic-humanitarian and university organizations gathered in Managua from 28 February to 2 March 1980 in an International Conference of Solidarity With the Nicaraguan Revolution convoked by the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

The organizations attending this conference are examples of a wide variety of ideologies in Europe and this continent. They operate under very diverse conditions which range from clandestine and resistance movements against military dictatorships to organizations which are in power in their respective governments.

Although their guidance and activities were different, the participants were able to develop a constructive dialog, united in a common goal: the liberation of the people in order for them to live in democracy and social justice.

After receiving detailed information from Sandinist leaders and thoroughly analyzing it during several heated debates, the participants agreed to ratify the support of their respective organizations for the Nicaraguan revolutionary process which, under the FSLN leadership, is following a path of constant progress and autonomy while maintaining the respect for the basic freedoms and human rights which were systematically violated under the Somozist dictatorship.

In view of the silent treatment concerning the new Nicaragua and the distortion maneuvers by a certain sector of the international press which is at the service of antipopular interests, the participants of this conference agreed to note that it is their obligation to disseminate, in their respective countries and organizations, detailed and correct information regarding the process of liberation currently underway in the land of Sandino.

These organizations also commit themselves to double their efforts so that the solidarity aid that theSandinist Nicaragua needs and deserves to receive in the political and economical spheres will continue and increase in order to carry out the process which was successfully started on 19 July 1979. It is very important for the people of the world to understand that the "Case of Nicaragua" cannot be filed away now that Somoza has fallen. On the contrary, the greatest challenge for the Nicaraguan people, the building of their FREE FATHERLAND, has just started. In view of difficulties and attempts to destabilize the government posed by the enemies of Nicaragua, the organizations present at the conference ratified their will to remain firm and loyal to the Sandinist revolution.

In addition, the conference noted that the Nicaraguan situation can only be understood within the context of the struggle of the people of Central America and the Caribbean who are seeking to liberate themselves from the tyrannies that are still oppressing them in many countries. Regarding this, the participants listened with great interest to a review of the resistance that is being carried out in Haiti, Honduras, Guatemala and particularly in El Salvador among others. The Salvadoran situation was subjected to a more detailed study. The conference praised the process of close coordination that has become evident among the forces of the resistance over the past few weeks. This process undoubtedly increases the possibilities for the liberation of the Salvadoran people. The conference expressed its concern over the interventionist threats in El Salvador and was emphatic in stating its support for the right of the people to their self-determination. Regarding the cases of the aforementioned countries and especially El Salvador, the participants assumed the responsibility to promote the best solidarity possible by disseminating reliable information on the different processes of resistance currently underway in the region.

Inspired by the success, the unitary will, the spirit of sacrifice and the militant solidarity of the FSLN, the participants reiterate their admiration and recognition for the heroic struggle of the Nicaraguan people and reaffirm their commitment to contribute to the consolidation of the revolution and activate in a more specific manner their solidarity with the process of liberation of Central America.

Managua, 2 March 1980.

FSLN, POLITICAL PARTIES WARN AGAINST FOES OF REVOLUTION

PA071926 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Mar 80 PA

[Undated communique by Sandinist National Liberation Front, Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, Nicaraguan Socialist Party, Peoples Social Christian Party and Independent Liberal Party, warning the Nicaraguan people of the true enemies of the revolution--read by announcer]

[Text] To the heroic people of Nicaragua and to all political and economic organizations of the country: The reconstruction of the entire nation is going through a stage in which it needs the cooperation of all political, economic and social forces of the country. The economic strangling to which it was subjected by the previous regime left our country in utter poverty, ruins and chaos. Only the revolution could truly confront the historic responsibility to reconstruct the fatherland in ruins, amid all sorts of difficulties and prevailing distrust of some local sectors which never were willing to support the people and their vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], in its long trek to establish in our country a regime of freedom and democracy.

This gigantic task of national reconstruction has been undertaken by sectors fully interested in offering their support for the only purpose of contributing to the reactivation of the nation's productive forces, essential to the socioeconomic changes required by the revolution.

Nevertheless, despite the destruction of the dictatorial regime, there still are some remnants of Somozism, belonging to local and international reactionary sectors which have not hesitated in seeking means to inflict damaging blows to the process while at the same time trying to discredit through shameless slander the sacred interests of the revolution.

In recent weeks, there have been three events that clearly show evidence of hostility toward the Sandinist popular revolution. The first is the clear and permanent disposition of traitorous elements who, caring little about our people's needs and hunger, are engaged in boycotting production by destroying companies through the sale of machinery and the flight of capital, disregarding the rights of the working masses and obstructing the acquisition of raw materials required to promote the industries' productive efforts.

The second is the campaign against the $75 million loan, organized by the most reactionary sectors of the United States who are trying to force the U.S. Congress to impose conditions for the loan. In addition, there is the repulsive attitude of the somber U.S. intelligency agency (CIA) which shamelessly has admitted its onerous activities in our country.

The third is the harmful conduct to the interests of the nation promoted by the CAUS leaders and the group of Eli Altamirano, who, taking advantage of the problems of the workers and their economic needs, have promoted the paralyzation of production, affecting the economic plans and provoking great losses--conduct that can be compared only to that of those organizations which, caring little about the nation's interests, use methods that were employed during the era of Somozism to gain important positions and influence over the masses.

It is true that the first two events have similar antecedents and objectives--the paralyzation of production centers trying to renew their efforts to operate, obstruct the economy and cause serious harm to the nation.

We do not condemn the workers, however, as we know of their afflictions, their difficulties, their needs and their aspirations for a better life.

The solution to these types of problems, such as those caused by failure and deficiency on the part of some administrators who adopt impromptu decisions, is not in the paralyzation of production or in the 100 percent wage increases, but in the establishment of the productive forces--which is the common responsibility of workers and employers--in the pace of production, in the payment of the obligations affecting some companies, and so forth. In this manner, we can achieve economic stability.

It is important that the workers understand the limitations of the present stage, the efforts being made to solve their needs within the present possibilities, and turn their backs on those elements who are trying to lure them to the slaughterhouse, provoking situations which, independent of their will, are taken advantage of by the most reactionary sectors for their own designs.

We strongly protest before our people and the world the open sedition of the CIA in our country, which offends and affects the interests of the people in their reconstruction efforts; which offends and affects the sovereign right of Nicaragua to make its own decisions, a right that was won through its victory over Somozism at the cost of over 40,000 lives.

We support the measures adopted by the National Reconstruction Government Junta to put an end to withdrawal of capital from the nation. We exhort it to apply them and to adopt other measures which may be necessary to carry out successfully the emergency economy recovery plan.

At the same time, we exhort the Superior Council of Private Enterprise and private initiative to offer their efforts toward those objectives.

We exhort the workers and their leaders to oppose the action of those who are trying to paralyze production or lead them into adventures contrary to the policies set forth by the revolutionary government, to the FSLN, to the state organizations and to national unity. At the same time, we urge them to contribute to the changes of the revolutionary state until all remnants of Somozism have been eliminated.

We Nicaraguans have no alternative other than to sacrifice our immediate welfare to set the necessary economic basis that will permanently guarantee political, economic and social changes, and thus, perserve the revolution from all threats assuring our promising future, as set forth by Sandino and Carlos Fonseca. Otherwise, we would be creating false expectations.

We support the revolution, its interests and methods and, as shown by our people, we are sure their stanch spirit of struggle will be the firmest obstacle to the action of its enemies, which will permit us to build that future noted by Sandino and Carlos Fonseca.

All for the revolution! Let us raise production! Let us smash the counterrevolution!

[Signed] Sandinist National Liberation Front, Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, Nicaraguan Socialist Party, Peoples Social Christian Party, Independent Liberal Party.

JUSTICE MINISTRY TO PROCESS MONEY DRAIN CHARGES

PA062319 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Justice Minister Ernesto Castillo has announced that this new state agency will handle the accusations filed against all businessmen who are draining their firms of capital. What will the ministry do when it has reports by our people against the turncoat capitalists, we asked Dr Castillo.

[Begin Castillo recording] Our revolutionary government has various offices which will take care of applying the revolutionary laws to punish those actions. Our mission is to receive reports and, on behalf of the state and our people, file charges against all those who are found to be responsible for crimes against our process.

For instance, if the firms are being drained of capital, we receive the report and file it with the appropriate court. If it is a matter of production sabotage or public disturbances or counterrevolutionary attitudes deserving arraignment, we receive the report, bring it before the court and on behalf of the people and the state proceed to file charges. If it is a matter of firms that refuse to pay their taxes, the Finance Ministry will send the accounts to us and, pursuant to the law, we will compel the firms and the capitalists to comply with their fiscal obligations.

In sum, we will channel any obligation that Nicaraguans have with the state and [words indistinct] to the appropriate agencies and demand compliance with them on behalf of the state. [end recording]

CAUS CHARGED WITH VIOLATING WORKERS' UNITY PRINCIPLES

PA060300 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The Central of Labor Action and Unity [CAUS] is no longer part of the Interlabor National Commission, recently organized between the Sandinist Workers Central [CST] and the General Confederation of Independent Workers for the purpose of consolidating the organized labor movement and the creation of a single workers' central.

The CAUS has violated the principles of unity of the interlabor commission by exhorting workers to occupy factories. This has seriously affected the economic recovery plan, according to information supplied by [name indistinct] Medrano, leader of the CST, who said CAUS had assumed an opportunistic role which opposed the unification initiatives of the CST.

WORKERS RECONSIDER MOTIVES FOR STRIKE, REJECT CAUS

PA051714 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] Factory workers who went on strike last week, on instructions of the Central of Labor Action and Unity [CAUS] have now analyzed the true objectives purused by that organization and have consequently rejected the CAUS promoters.

Workers interviewed by our reporters said they have realized that all paralyzation of production harms the entire nation, hindering economic reactivation. Only by increasing production will we be able to resolve our crisis, the workers said.

WEAPONS, MILITARY SUPPLIES SEIZED AT CAUS OFFICES

PA081540 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Weapons, military supplies and medicine were seized from the installations of the Central of Labor Action and Unity [CAUS] in Leon.

CASTRO STRESSES WOMEN'S EQUAL RIGHTS AT FMC CONGRESS

FL082330 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2144 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL

[Speech by President Fidel Castro at closing session of the Third Congress of the Federation of Cuban Women held at Havana's Karl Marx Theater--live]

[Text] Distinguished guests, comrades in the party and government leadership, dear women comrades. First of all, I would like to express our deep gratitude to the many delegations from all continents who have honored us and joined us in this congress. At the same time, I would like to warmly congratulate them and all of you on International Women's Day. [applause]

I believe there is no more worthy way of commemorating this date than with the conclusion of this great congress. The congress has been a brilliant summing-up of what the Cuban woman has meant, means, and will mean for the revolution. The history of our revolution could not have been written in the past 20 years without the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC]. There is practically no activity in which in one form or another the FMC is not involved. There is no activity, including those which are more or less considered the domain of men: war, defense. Here as in Nicaragua, Zambia, El Salvador, Grenada, women have active participation. Suffice to list some of these tasks, many of which have been mentioned here, of extraordinary importance. For instance, those which refer to the cultural improvement of women: the literacy battle of 1961 when the Cuban woman had such an outstanding role; the first schools to teach women peasants organized by the federation schools, which taught hundreds of thousands of women peasants in such a way that the change in spirit, thought, life of our women peasants from the country's most remote areas could be perceived, including their manner of dress, with the clothes they learned to sew in the schools--a program that was later continued during these past 20 years; the struggle, the effort, the success in the battle for sixth grade and for secondary studies, for university studies which is reflected for example, in this fact that is so interesting; 31 percent of women workers attend school whereas only 25 percent of male workers do. [applause]

And it's not because the men are doing certain things that make studying more difficult, since those percentages can be seen in the regular work centers. Therefore, women are participating more in study activities. In addition, tens, hundreds of thousands of women have acquired abilities, skills through these self-improvement courses, which allow them to do things which are useful to themselves, useful to the country, even economically promising things as shown, for example, by the increased production at the handicraft workshops sponsored by the people's government. Along with the effort for the cultural and technical preparation of women there has been the effort for the ideological improvement of women. And how could that level they have reached, that political and revolutionary awareness they display have reached the masses of Cuban women without the effort of the FMC? How could we have taken revolutionary ideas to them, the principles of Marxism-Leninism to the masses of women workers, housewives, without the steadfast and constant effort of the FMC? How could thousands and hundreds of thousands of cadres have been educated to direct the efforts of the organization at various levels? How could so many women play such an outstanding role in our society? How could so many cadres have been prepared not only for the work of the organization itself but also to support the various fronts of the revolution? This work has also been reflected in the leadership cadres in general through the efforts of the federation schools and the National Federation School. A school, by the way, which today has an enrollment of which two-thirds of the students come from other countries [applause], basically from Africa although all continents are represented [applause].

Work has been done. And only by working in such a tireless way could the political and revolutionary awareness of Cuban women have been raised to the levels they have now attained. It would have been impossible, I repeat, without the work of the federation.

But its activity is also reflected, for example, on other fronts, such as the one that was so often mentioned here--the struggle for the prevention and eradication of crime. Work with children, the effort of the 12,754 social workers, cadres specially trained for that important task. [sentence as heard] In fact, in recent days, the party leadership had been analyzing this problem also--what type of institutions should we have in addition to the centers of rehabilitation; which cases should be resolved through education in the regular schools; which cases should be resolved through education in schools of other types which will have to be created. What have been the experiences in this regard in other socialist countries? This is an area of great importance and great responsibility for the party and for the government on which we still have to work and improve what we already have. We must create adequate institutions because our society so requires, just as it requires special schools for other cases as well. In sum, to give them the correct treatment, the pedagogical and scientific treatment that this problem calls for.

But there are two fronts in the revolution which are fronts in which the revolution has been most successful, success that has been acknowledged throughout the world, including our enemies--the front of education and the front of public health. [applause] The federation and women play the decisive role on these fronts. In the first place, the federation because of the effort it makes to link school and family--the already mighty movement which includes 1.4 million mothers, the movement of combative mothers for education, which has carried out tasks that are so important and decisive in education.

The participation of the federation in another institution is very important: the school councils. And the direct participation of women in education, in the various activities of education, both in teaching itself and in the services needed by each school where 200,000 out of approximately 300,000 education workers--two-thirds--are women.

And in education, which country of the Third World, not to say which country of Latin America, has attained the levels our country has, the levels of registration in schools, the levels of registration in secondary schools, the levels of schooling of the average Cuban? And basically, this has been possible by the abnegated effort of Cuban women. When internationalism and the internationalist spirit of Cuban women was discussed, I recalled two examples: the example of the Che Guevara internationalist detachment now teaching in Angola [applause] largely comprised of women. Another example which is closer to home is the 1,200 Cuban teachers now in Nicaragua [applause] who have helped set up hundreds of new schools and who went to teach not in cities but in the most remote corners of the country, in places so distant that they have to travel 3 days on horseback to get there.

We are talking about more than Sierra Maestra, Baracoa, much more. Because in the brother country of Nicaragua there are fewer roads than in Cuba. They go to these remote places to live just as the peasant families housing them live--to teach children, to teach adults. They are teachers who sometimes have up to 50 students, up to and more than 100 in a single room in different grades. Reports of the work carried out by these teachers in Nicaragua and the prestige they enjoy, the recognition they receive, are impressive. Well, that contingent is nearly 50 percent women. Almost 50 percent! [applause] Many of these women are mothers [applause]. There have been few cases of returnees because they could not take it, very few. But as I recall, because I asked, they were men. As far as I can recall, in the first groups there were no women. [applause] None. There may have been cases in which they had to return because of health problems but there were no cases in which they could not take the working conditions.

Of course, when we promised our Sandinist brothers and the Nicaraguan people that we were willing to send them physicians and other health personnel and to send teachers, it was because we knew that our country had the necessary teachers, all that Nicaragua needed. One thousand-two hundred and more. Many more. In our teacher training schools alone we have more than 30,000. And this year all these teachers will have received their degrees. [applause]

And remember that not long ago 70 percent of teachers had no degrees, when schools had to be created one after the other to respond to the population explosion. And there were not enough teachers with degrees for our schools. And the teachers we sent to Nicaragua all had degrees and had several years of experience. Do you know how many teachers volunteered to go to Nicaragua? Twenty-nine thousand teachers volunteered. [applause] Twenty-nine thousand! And, of those, approximately half were women. And much has been made of the fact that women are also mothers and wives. We must really stop and think this over to realize what it means, the merit this has. And the awareness, this means. We cannot speak of awareness just to speak of awareness, to say we are very aware. Sometimes we complain because we do not have enough awareness of certain things, but when we speak of our people and their level of awareness we must mention this example. This is irrefutable proof.

And I ask, in our hemisphere, what country can claim this? These women and men? Twenty-nine thousand. Twenty-nine thousand who met the requirements: experience, age limits. Nicaragua will no doubt be able to claim this. It will have this strength and be able to help other peoples. [applause] Because it is a country of extraordinary virtues, extraordinary heroism, that is beginning today that path that we initiated 20 years ago, the path to literacy, with an illiteracy two and a half times greater than Cuba had. I understand they have over 70 percent illiteracy. Well, they intend to eradicate illiteracy in 1 year. On 24 March their literacy campaign begins and they are going to mobilize over 150,000 persons, and I am sure that by the end of this year there will be no illiteracy in Nicaragua and it will become the second country [applause], it will be the second country in America, the second. See if anything can be solved without revolution.

The infant mortality rate is around 100 per 1,000 during the first year of life, around 100. And they will also reduce this rate considerably in the next few years. That is to say, we have no doubt that other brother countries will have what we have today in human and moral richness. This is evident in other things and though today is International Women's Day and the closing of the congress, we can recall other examples. For the internationalist missions of Angola and Ethiopia some canvassing was done. More than 300,000 Cubans volunteered for those missions. More than 300,000. When we talk about awareness, there we have awareness, there we have the proof. Although, of course, we are still lacking awareness in many areas and we still have to develop awareness. And we are not going to rest on our laurels. We cannot rest on them. We cannot dream of past success, the success attained, the levels of today. No, we are still very unsatisfied, very unsatisfied. And we have to do more. We have done a lot toward improving education but we also have to improve the cadres who work with children in all areas. We still have a lot of improvements to make in organization, in the efficiency in our system. There are deficiencies. The attitude of a revolutionary can be no tougher. Conformism, self-satisfaction can never be the philosophy of the revolutionary in regard to our people.

There is another area: public health, a service that is so valuable, so fundamental, and so appreciated by our people, where most of the workers are also women, including many women physicians. The work and participation of women in that service is remarkable. Therefore, between the two--education and public health--more than 300,000 women are working in our country. And it is hard work. The work of nurses is hard work, a responsible job, of great importance. The federation also works directly in health programs. Sixty-one thousand health brigade members work in programs that are so important for the family, for the people. For example, in preventive medicine, in vaccination programs for diptheria, typhus, tetanus and others.

They also work in the cytology testing program. You should realize the progress and how we can advance even more. Who knows how many thousands and tens of thousands of lives have been saved through cytology testing? And we can see how this mass program in the area of health can work many more miracles. Aside from the federation's work in health, there is the work of the women as such, as workers, and results--although we cannot be satisfied, I repeat, and although we still have to overcome a good many deficiencies--it can be summed up in one fact: Last year our infant mortality rate was below 20.

We made 19.4 [applause], 19.4. Well, what Third World country has that rate?

And our life expectancy is increasing. I believe it is sixty something. How much? [whispers in background] I believe we have reached around 69 in life expectancy, but I also understand women live longer than men. [laughter] In that statistic a larger portion corresponds to women. It is something that no one can understand, considering the efforts and sacrifice women make, but it seems that nature is wise, doesn't it? That women make up the greater part in this statistic? That is what I understand. That is good news. [applause]

That demonstrates that nature is not unjust. A lot of work is required to achieve that rate of 19.4 One just says it, 19.4, but there is a lot of effort involved by physicians, nurses, health workers in preventive medicine, consultations [with physicians]--which average eight as pointed out in your report--and maternity hospitals, the efforts made by the physicians to reduce the rate still more, desperate efforts at times. Exact records are kept. Let us say that maintaining that rate in health is an extraordinary gain. I do not doubt that some day our Nicaraguan brothers will also attain it, that they will improve on the percent they now have. Surely after the first years it will be noticed. That is the most essential thing a nation has to do and which is not done because of those governments. Why would Somoza, Somozism and imperialism be concerned with that?

If we talk about the people killed by imperialism, it would have to be blamed for the deaths of tens of thousands of Nicaraguan children since they intervened there the first time. That was when they intervened to impede Sandino's revolution. If a record is compiled of how many children and persons died due to abandonment, lack of medical attention during 50 long years, the number would be great. When 100 die, 80 of those could be saved by man, 80 of the 100 per 1,000 who are dying. Those are the statistics that imperialism does not compile. Those are the victims in the hemisphere because of its domination. When we talk about the hemisphere, we have to talk about millions and millions. The countries having that rate are many--100 and 80--and some have a higher one.

I do not know Haiti's rate but I believe it is very high. There are some with rates higher than Nicaragua's. Brazil's rate, despite its propaganda concerning its industrial development, has some places with 200. There are places in that country with 200 and in others 100, more or less. Those are the results of exploitation. That is what capitalism, colonialism, neocolonialism and imperialism bring to those countries, because they prosper as a result of that. The people do not own their countries. They do not own their destinies. They are subjected to the cruelest governments, the most corrupt, the most submissive. This translates into that huge loss in human and moral values.

Then the imperialists talk about human rights while they help starve hundreds of millions of persons to death with their system. Simply, it is a criminal system. In these successes--I am referring to the two fields I have mentioned--the women's role has been decisive. One of the matters most discussed in the preparation of the main report, and which was discussed at the rank-and-file level, one of the things that preoccupied us the most is women's participation in the country's economic affairs. I want to speak on that topic.

There has been some concern about this. There is no doubt that in recent years we have made a lot of progress in this area. That can be demonstrated with numbers. Prior to the revolution's triumph, in 1953 there were 262,000 working women. Today there are 800,600. As Vilma explained in the report, it is not only a matter of numbers but the change in type of work. Much of that employment [prior to the revolution] was as servants, in bars, of that type, into which women were forced during the days of capitalism. This is quite a contrast to the figures we have today of women qualified as teachers, physicians, architects, nurses, intermediate level technicians.

Some 78,000 qualified women have been incorporated into production in recent years. That mere piece of information demonstrates the real change that has taken place.

In the past 5 years some 200,000 women have been incorporated into production. It can be said that they are being incorporated at a higher proportion than men. That is logical because men had more sources of employment than women. We have now reached the 30-percent level, that is, 30 percent of the working population is women. It will not be easy for our country, for our revolution in future years, to maintain these rates of increase percentage wise. For an underdeveloped country to reach 30 percent is a high level. Of each 100, 30 are women.

All this comes at a time when large contingents of youths are reaching working age. Those contingents of youths were part of the population explosion. Those numbers can be seen in the schools. We have to build schools to respond to that explosion. When Fernandez spoke here, he said the number of youths had grown 15 times. I believe more or less 12 times. Fernandez, if you said 12, you made a mistake. [laughter in the audience] There were only some 70,000. What is it you said? He says there were 88,000. All right, only 12 times. But anything multiplied by 12 is not trifling. Imagine how much effort is required to assimilate 1.1 million students. A huge one.

We could not say the same thing: that we have the material conditions to guarantee education in the same manner that we do medical attention. Just in employment that growth rate would require new investments and new sources of work. We will have to face up to some problems in the field of employment due to that explosion's arrival at the working age. We really believe that it is the priority duty of the revolution, of the party, of the state to make the greatest efforts to find formulas, to find answers, solutions to these employment problems. This coincides with the other fact, seeking efficiency in the economy, seeking productivity. All these things bring about savings in human resources. That part of the economic efficiency is the savings in human resources. We seek greater efficiency.

It is not a matter of solving the problem by creating employment for the sake of creating employment, that they do not render a service, that they are not useful. To assign 50 persons to an office when the work can be done by 30 or 35. That is an example. You can understand. It would not be the correct formula. It would not be economical to create employment based on inefficiency. We have continued to make efforts to raise productivity and we have made gains. We have continued to make efforts to raise the level of efficiency and it has been achieved. We have a lot to do and a lot to achieve in that field.

I remember that there was a time when we did not have enough men in Havana to unload the ships in port. That was the time when wages were the same if 5 or 10 tons were loaded. In some work centers tying wages to production has raised productivity remarkably. The men were not enough in the port of Havana. It looked like a bottomless barrel and we had the men. However, we have made great gains in productivity in the ports and in many other activities.

We are faced with greater efficiency, a greater productivity at a time when we have a population explosion that is reaching the working age. It would not be wise, it would not be honest to make promises, to give answers. We do know what is needed in investments to give a quick response to that mass. But we do not have the needed amount of economic resources. We cannot say that in the next 5 years we will invest three times more, in other words, we have to invest what we have. Now we have to figure out how many ways, how many forms there are to find useful employment, that is our responsibility. There must be ways and we will find them.

Right here in the National Assembly, we recently discussed, and it was recommended, a way of collecting, that it should be monthly. It was every 3 months, based on consumption averages. No, it had to be done monthly after taking an actual reading [apparently Castro is talking about electric bills] it had to be exact and not based on averages.

That requires, as an example, a large number of persons. It is not going to be every 3 months. What is going to be every 3 months is the collection of FMC quotas. It is going to be monthly. You know how much one has to walk to collect. [laughter in audience] Our workers of the electric industry will have to walk a lot. But it is something necessary. The people want it that way. It is a greater convenience for the people. This generates a number of jobs. These jobs can be filled by women. We must not forget that. [applause]

That was an example. I can cite other examples. In the textile industry which is operated on an average of 280 days per year, we could change it to 335 days per year and produce much more fabric. Besides adding a new shift, there would be other jobs needed to keep the mill going. It would only stop for repairs. That would generate a lot of jobs and these would be for women. I can go on citing other examples. At the sugar mills they have to work without stop for 150 days. It is very hard work. Someday we will have to figure out ways to provide rest for the workers during harvest time. It is hard work. If we are looking for greater efficiency, it would be necessary to provide rest periods. We have not done that because we did not have the manpower.

Other things were done to benefit the sugar industry worker, such as the stabilization (estabilizacion). That was one of the first demands presented to the revolution, but we have not been able to do it. When we have more elbow room, we can do some of those things. The factories we now have could provide more jobs. In arts and crafts shops, perhaps, how much more could be done for domestic consumption and for export. Perhaps the Sandinistas can help us in that. They have wonderful arts and crafts workers. You have seen the gift they presented today to the federation.

In respect to new factories that are going into production, we have many. Recently the Santa Clara textile mill began operating. This means work for thousands and thousands of persons in Santa Clara. In the same city we are building a machine shop. This will be a very important unit because it will produce components for sugar mills. It will produce, right here in Cuba, most of what is needed to build a new sugar mill. We are now producing 50 percent, we will reach 70 percent and then all.

This year two new cement plants will go into operation. There are new factories we are building that are due to start producing. There are new programs of industrial investment, services which are going to be developed. Of course, sometimes we have the problem of distribution of employment, that it is unbalanced. We have places where we lack manpower now. There are other places where we have a greater number of surplus workers [excedentes]. The worst surplus problems are in Oriente, during the days of the population explosion. The explosion in Oriente was the greatest. The birth rate was much greater in Oriente than it was in the western provinces, for example. One cannot emulate, and it is not good that the western provinces emulate the eastern ones in population matters. Some areas have worse problems in manpower matters.

When the time comes to develop an area such as Moa, we have to look for personnel in all parts of the country to build there. There are thousands and thousands of construction workers there from all parts of the country. When the time comes to build the first nuclear power plant in Cienfuegos, thousands will have to work on that project. When we begin building the steel industry in northern Oriente, we will have to mobilize thousands and thousands of builders.

The problem facing us is real, it is objective. This does not relieve us of the sacred and elemental duty of seeking formulas to respond to the problem of employment. In this women have made great progress. A lot. It must be stated that what we must do is to advance, never go back one single step. Not one single step back. [applause] That is very important. We must not take a single step backward and, if possible we must advance a little more. If reality allows us, we have to advance.

The developed socialist countries already have 40 percent, and even more than 40 percent. Those are the developed socialist countries. We are not at that level. We must be very careful and profound in studying this problem. We believe that there should be preferential jobs for women at work centers. We believe in that. We should follow that line. I know other things have been discussed such as jobs not suitable for women. That is a different type of problem. It is a case of health. One cannot make decisions in such types of problems. What can be done is to review or decrease the number of jobs where women cannot participate in accordance with the rate of development of technology, as the equipment is changed, as working conditions change.

You can see that women are having greater participation in construction work. At sugar mills women's participation is growing. Thus, those jobs where women have no access will have to decrease as production conditions change. Free contracting, I believe, does not impede that in the process of selecting or contracting workers, the administrations take it up with the organizations, unions and even the federation. [applause] In the process of selection of personnel freely contracted--we are not going to advertise this in the newspapers--we will not do it behind closed doors. When you employ someone, one must know who is being employed, who is being selected.

In the case of women with equal qualifications, some might have problems and others not. [applause] This must be taken into consideration. We cannot use a strictly economic criteria without taking into consideration some social justice. We are not capitalists. We are socialists and want to become communists. [applause]

I believe that this way of doing things helps and should not be dropped. In free contracting, centralized assignment of manpower disappears. This does not mean that the manager does not have to consult. It is the practical and useful thing to do. He has a union to turn to, the federation. I believe this could help select the best personnel. I have no doubt of it. This does not violate the principle of free contracting.

We must be very careful in certain situations that they not lead us to back away. This is in the gains we have made with women. We must consolidate the gains and continue to advance. If we examine the number of women studying, above all in activities such as intermediate level health technicians, and others--those attending universities where there is a large percentage of women--doubtlessly the qualifications of women will continue to increase along with their access to many technical jobs. Many comrades are doing outstanding work. I believe you elected to the national committee today a very outstanding comrade. She is in charge of a research center. She was in charge and is now charged with research work in the struggle against African swine fever.

They continue to shine in technical jobs. That future is good. If we have problems, it does not mean that we have to back away from our gains. It has taken hard work to achieve it, a lot of struggle against prejudices, misunderstandings, to achieve a climate or equality, to overcome prejudices, backwardness. If we regress in employment and economic issues, then we will begin regressing in everything else we have gained.

I sincerely believe it is the duty of the party, state, and unions to be concerned over this. It is also the duty of the women themselves. This is one of the tasks, objectives, objectives of the federation. This is in addition to helping in health services, education, in the struggle against crime and all tasks in which women participate. It is not only their participation, that is great and very important in economic tasks and services. It is the federation's duty to be alert in all matters of interests to women and the federation should defend those interests in the party, in the state. You have sought some solutions already by yourselves.

We have heard about meetings in the light industry, where many of the workers are women, and the problem of the schools was always present; the schools ended at 1630 hours and the child care centers closed at a certain time.

You yourselves proposed solutions to those problems and we came up with the educational assistants. Today there is talk--some provinces will have problems--about selecting better qualified assistants, of better work in that. But you yourselves found the solution to the problem. There was a problem of differences in school closing time and work closing time. You sought solutions and found the answer. You have been discussing not the problems but the progress of the solution you found.

The federation must make every effort to contribute in employment matters and find solutions to the problems you have brought up. This is very important. The FMC must remain alert in all these problems of employment to which I am referring and the participation in the country's economic life. In reality, we will continue to have problems at the same rate of past years due to the reasons I have explained. There are other sources of employment. We have thousands of comrades working in other countries acquiring training. We have several thousand in Czechoslovakia, the GDR. We have thousands of comrades working abroad as technicians, as technicians or construction workers.

Of course, preferably, when it comes to that type of activity--and I do not know if you will say I am discriminating--if we have to send 10,000 construction workers, logically, because of the type of work, there will be a majority of men. So we send men to undertake some of these activities, since they [the other countries] discriminate against women. Sometimes they do not want women in combat, they do not want them, even though they have shown their capability. [applause]

If there is some possibility for the country to undertake certain economic jobs abroad, we can use our reserves of men, of course without excluding women. We must not exclude women, but we realize that when a woman has to leave, when a woman has to go, the human sacrifice made is much greater than when the man leaves.

We have the duty to seek wise and just solutions to these problems. You can trust the party, as this will be the line that the party will follow.

There has been much talk about the advancement of women in the area of political and administrative responsibilities. I think this issue continues to be of utmost importance. In some areas we have slipped back. For instance, we slipped back in the area of the people's government elections. Our figures dropped and in the second election there were fewer women elected than in the first election.

We obtained a good proportion in the National Assembly, but in the last electoral district elections, the number was reduced. Naturally, this should make us reflect and worry. We have slipped back even after we had complained about the results of the first election. We aspired to advance and instead we have slipped back.

Of course, some explanations have been given. Some have been given here. All of a woman's responsibilities still make it difficult, but could there not be prejudices too? Could there not be prejudice even among women themselves?

At voting time, we vote. I am not saying that we have to vote for a woman simply because she is a woman. Citizens should vote for the person who in their opinion is better prepared and more capable. We should not also fail to give our vote to a woman just because she is a woman, or because of prejudice. Anyhow, we believe that the percentage of women elected to the people's government--in the rank and file election--is low, very low.

We have advanced in other fields. For example in labor union leadership, more than 40 percent of the members are women.

I believe that in the previous congress this percentage was smaller, approximately 30. It is remarkable that with women having a participation of 30 percent [presumably in the labor force], they have a participation of more than 40 percent in the labor leadership. This speaks of the trust that our workers have in women.

I was unable to personally listen to the speech delivered by Comrade (Landi), but I found out later that he gave some information on the youth situation noting that already 40 percent of the militants are women. They have advanced from 29 to 40 percent. This is a significant advance.

We have already advanced in the party to eighteen nine [sentence as heard]. I understand that in the Federation of Middle School Students [FEEM], 65 percent of the leaders are woman comrades.

In the pioneers--perhaps this is most promising--75 percent of the posts are held by the girls. Seventy-five percent! [applause] This is remarkable. It is obvious that children have no prejudices. Seventy-five percent are little girl comrades. This is promising and interesting information.

Neither the party, nor the government, can abandon the struggle to promote women for one minute. I am absolutely convinced that society will benefit in the same proportion that it is able to develop and use the human, moral and intellectual qualities of women. I am absolutely convinced of this.

It is impressive to notice the differences between a just society--a socialist society--and a capitalist society in this regard. I am not sure that the idea of equality has attained victory--not even at on a international level. There are not too many examples, and in this I am including socialist countries also.

I believe more women should be promoted at the state and party levels. [applause] It is our duty to create conditions and develop awareness. This is our duty. This is a sacred duty to which we are morally obliged. I sometimes think that our party still is to a large extent a party of men, and that our state is to a large extent a state of men.

Perhaps this thesis is not evident in this stand [laughing], I do not know what some companeros think about this, but I believe it is that way. I think: could it be that perhaps we are prejudiced despite our proclamations of struggles against prejudice?

This is a subject that has been discussed in this congress and in the main report. There it is established that we have advanced, but we must continue advancing and prevent the slightest setback in this historic struggle.

During the congress, various problems affecting women were discussed; especially problems related to services. Of course, institutionally we have advanced--with the family code, the youth code, the Constitution--in our effort to promote equality. Juridically we have advanced, but we must also advance by our actions. What represents an unjust burden on women? What can help alleviate this burden? This is why the problem related to services always reflects especially on the working women. Proposals have been made on this. I really have doubts as to whether we are doing things correctly when we have a beauty shop close at a certain time and then the working woman cannot go to the beauty shop. The beauty shop is just one example. [applause] This is not most essential, but here we have also talked about the dry-cleaning establishments. This has been discussed. It has been discussed with vigor. Stores have been discussed. The report [applause]...the main report states that in this regard we have moved backwards and that when some experiments were conducted, the federation was not considered at all. It was not even asked for its opinion. [applause]

Should we think that we are not capable of solving this problem. [applause] We solved the problem in schools with teachers aides.

Why cannot there be a beauty shop open after working hours? [applause] Don't bus workers work nights? Don't doctors, nurses and hospital workers work nights? [applause] Don't electrical industry workers work nights maintaining electrical production during peak hours?

So what if many or a few go to them [the beauty shop]? They would be available to the people more time, even for those who don't work. This appears to be a necessity. I have also heard elsewhere what the report states: absenteeims, authorizations, have been legalized. They have been legalized [applause] because workers cannot solve their problems at other times and they have to do it during working hours and gentlemen, there are 800,000 women working, 800,600, according to reports. They have these problems.

Why not think about finding solutions of this nature? To give reasonable service during those hours? Have not we discussed the employment problem? Well, this represents more jobs, in the beauty shops. [applause] There are various solutions. Schedules can be changed, new shifts can be added.

It all depends on what is deemed most suitable. Those who don't go to beauty shops can take care of themselves in their own homes, but if they go to the beauty shops then they will be paying for the service they receive there. Not all the employees have to be there as they are during peak hours. I don't know if this is 2000 or 2100. The entire staff does not have to be there. There could be one or two. This has to be studied.

Why can't the dry-cleaning machines operate at night also? They are going to pay for the service.

We must think of practical formulas. We cannot be dogmatic or inflexible in this. We must do the things that help the people, that help them with their problems. And we understand... [Castro changes train of thought] mind you, at this juncture I haven't heard a single man gripe about it. [shouts] I have not heard a single one. [shouts] This must be for some reason, for some reason [shouts], despite the code. [laughter]

[This is] a proposal from the working women, fundamentally. And this must respond to a reality and in many places the people are asking why do we have to close? We must look for solutions, create useful services.

I am talking of services useful to the population. These services are paid for by the population. This is the reality. I think that the comrades who are responsible for these fronts must delve into this and look for just and reasonable solutions to these problems. They should help find solutions so the working woman will not go crazy. [applause]

The report and theses of the congress constitute tangible evidence of the internationalist spirit of Cuban women. The federation is really doing wide-ranging work, a large amount of important international work, though the international bodies, the (FEDIN) [presumably Women's International Democratic Federation], but also at the United Nations, through the initiatives, during the International Women's Year and the International Year of the Child.

One must say, and we say so with satisfaction, that the federation is very highly regarded internationally. [applause] In the international bodies, in the women's organizations of other countries, in the countries of the socialist and capitalist camp and in the organizations of countries of liberation movements and underdeveloped countries, our federation has prestige, a well-earned and deserved prestige.

Our federation is of great help in connection with revolution's international policies. [applause]

The very same school I mentioned is proof of the confidence in the revolution. I think the comrades of Namibia, South Africa, the liberation movements, the Saharan comrades have students in our national school for cadres. There are dozens upon dozens of students from many places. We are rendering this important international service of training cadres for women's organizations of the countries of liberation movements and of the Third World countries, which need them. And that is why it is significant that two thirds of the students are from other countries, are foreigners, just to use the word foreigner because we do not regard them as foreigners. None of the delegations here and none of any students who may come from Namibia [applause] or South Africa [applause] are. They are simply sisters. [applause] The Cuban woman participates in the international women's movement and she participates in the international revolutionary movement. Cuban women participate actively in international solidarity.

It eases our mind, it pleases us to know that the country, that the party can comply. It has a people on which one can rely. [applause]

Allow me, companeras, to take advantage of this opportunity to refer to another topic which is not exactly related to the congress but which is very important to us at this moment.

The country is engaged in a serious effort toward diligence and efficiency. We always said that this was not a campaign, that it had to be a line of conduct. This line of conduct is beginning to be manifested.

It has been visible in this very congress and in the organization and preparation of the congress. This has been noticed and is beginning to be noticed in many areas. We must not expect spectacular things in a short time. However, we must expect many things over a longer period.

We are going to achieve this gradually. A new attitude is becoming noticeable in many people in their eagerness to fulfill their tasks and obligations. There is a more energetic, a more concerned and a more diligent attitude in many cadres. Of course, this is just the beginning. Legislative measures will be gradually adopted. A law decree was enacted recently to strengthen labor discipline. Other dispositions will be adopted in connection with the education workers.

Logically, one cannot treat all sectors the same way. Some workers discipline is more important than other workers' discipline. It is more important in a hospital or in a school. The same goes for the railroad, for example. Lax discipline anywhere would not have the same result as it would on the railroad, because of what it means and costs.

A decree will be enacted soon, too, on the responsibility of administrators in performing their duties. [applause] They must have authority but they must also know well what they must abide by in every situation and what their obligations and responsibilities are. [applause]

Some efforts are beginning to become noticeable. For example, in the Havana transportation sector the average number of trips a day has increased from 19,000 to about 26,500. This has already become noticeable. [applause]

It is undeniable that before there had not been any result from the substantial investments the country had made in the transportation sector. There had been no response. The country had made important investments in buses. But the number of trips had not increased because of some objective, and also some purely subjective, factors.

Special attention is being given in acquiring spare parts and providing the physical means the transportation sector needs.

The country has decided to make further investments with regard to buses. It is estimated that approximately 28,000 or 29,000 trips would meet the demand. Where 28,000 are required and 19,000 are made, logically there has to be a problem. This is due, of course, to the support being given by the provincial party to the transportation sector, to the work of the ministry, to the efforts of the trade union and--it is also fair to admit it--to the effort of the new management of the Havana buses. [applause]

An outstanding effort, much activity, great diligence are being developed. The work of the party activists amid the workers and the transportation sector has been noticed. The buses are beginning to look cleaner, and so forth.

At the same time we are going to make an effort to repair the streets. With new factories we are going to almost triple the amount of asphalt produced. Work will also be done at the terminals and this is a lot of work. However, it is heartening to see that in cases where it seemed that discipline has been lost and could not be recovered, we are now going to have discipline again. At long last we are regaining discipline. So, you see, it was impossible to regain discipline regarding the buses.

We will likewise have discipline return in the railroads, in air transportation and in other areas. In sum, we will have discipline again in all areas. How can we not regain discipline? We are going to regain it. Wherever there is a job well done we will begin to see the answer.

This year the country is facing several problems. I would say that this is the year of the plagues. A plague here and a plague there. I think this is the title of a book by a British author. It spoke of the plague--of the bubonic plague, I think it was. It would reach those cities and it would ravage them. I think the book was set in London. These plagues, these diseases, don't have the devastating effect of cyclones, but they are harmful.

We are facing sugarcane rust, which has affected one of the best varieties that we have. Almost one third of the cane planted in the country is of that variety. It has affected the amount of cane that will be harvested. But, not only that, it has been proven that it will also affect the amount of sugar this cane will yield. This same cane will yield less sugar. So there we have the effects of the plague on the production plan for 1985: by itself the plague has affected the plan by approximately 1 million tons of sugar due to the drop in the yield of cane and the drop in the yield of sugar.

And we must not forget the other plagues, because weeds are also a plague. Last year the harvesting of cane took a long time. Consequently, there was a reduction in the amount of land prepared for cultivation and the amount of cane planted. This year it is very important to finish the harvest as soon as possible.

We are going to fight this disease with new strains of cane. Twelve new varieties have arrived which are simply resistant to this disease. This is the route we are taking. There is a stepped-up plan for planting cane. More than 20,000 caballerias in spring. Due to certain limitations of machinery the men in the fields are making a tremendous effort to get the lands ready. In some provinces this effort is greater than in others, but in general it is a tremendous effort. In many provinces the machines are operating 24 hours a day. The men are sleeping alongside the machines preparing everything for seedtime in order to eradicate as soon as possible this strain of cane which is producing these effects this year. Next year an even greater effort will be made. In the spring 26,000 caballerias will be planted, so that not even one cane plant of that sensitive variety will remain, not even in the nursery.

Some investments are going to be made in land preparation equipment, precisely for this effort, above all for next year. In 2 years this strain will be practically eradicated and replaced with new varieties.

We have had the problem of tobacco disease. This disease cropped up last year and this year it has practically wiped out the tobacco plantations. It has wiped them out. It has reduced our tobacco production to 10 percent, in a year in which great efforts were made to prepare the land. But despite this the people will not be deprived of their cigarettes. They will not be deprived of them. We were forced to suspend the exports that were pending; to renounce all tobacco exports this year, and even to import some tobacco to satisfy the people's requirements. We did not believe that the population would be affected, but they will be affected by the loss of income to the country caused by completely pulling out of the market this year.

A technical solution to this plague has apparently already been found. Good results have been obtained in experiments with new products this year and the necessary amounts have already been acquired. It appears that this disease has also been affecting other countries in a very virulent fashion. It has caused similar damage in other countries. Fortunately, however, we can count on a product whose efficiency in laboratory tests this year has already brought us a reliable weapon to combat this plague. The products have been acquired and arrangements are underway to have available all the equipment and all the measures necessary to confront this plague next year.

Swine fever has again made an appearance in our country. It came in through the northeastern region, through the area of Baracoa, according to the preliminary findings. We attribute it, in all probability, to a phenomenon that has been taking place increasingly over the past few years: the arrival of dozens upon dozens of boats of Haitian immigrants who are trying to go to the Bahamas, to the United States and other places. They arrive in their boats which are sometimes damaged, other times without fuel. On some occasions, there have been shipwrecks. So they arrive on the northern coast or on the southern coast; sometimes they bring animals or foodstuffs. And because of the sanitary conditions in the country, this is a risk even for the health of the people.

Last year 2,868 boats arrived in the area of Guantanamo, but others arrived in other areas. Some reach the northern coast of Holguin Province, others arrive in the area of Nuevitas. The least we have been able to do in these cases is to give them aid. But this growing phenomenon--do we know how far it is going to grow? It compels us to implement very strict sanitary measures because of the threat it poses of diseases that will affect animals, plants and even humans.

Now the country is fighting swine fever with very forceful measures, and it has experience with this disease. Detecting it, eliminating the main areas of infection; in all, we have already faced it and fortunately have experience with it. We have the experience; we have the means to diagnose it.

We are confronting these three plagues as we think we should.

We are behind in the cane harvest, way behind. We are behind by more than 400,000 tons of sugar. The reason for this is partly because of the cane that was not ground and partly because of the lower yield in some provinces. No special effort was made because of these situations. The importance of sugar is the importance of the cane harvest. It demands a special effort.

There has been an opening toward more favorable prices for sugar.

This will help to partially compensate for the afflictions of tobacco, the afflictions of the other plagues, the affliction of sugar, but we have to produce the sugar. We must produce the sugar. This year it is very important to finish the harvest early. We must not fall behind, because in the month of May we have to sow a lot. And the two tasks overlap.

We are asking for a special effort in the harvesting of sugarcane from all provinces during these 2 months, March and April, in which the sugarcane has a higher yield. And then we reach the extraordinary harvesting period in May and June. In May some harvesting ends. Some of the provinces and the harvesting relatively early, others will be delayed somewhat because the end of the harvesting and the beginning of the sowing plan overlap. Therefore, the provinces will have to operate in a state of emergency, we might say, during May and June, in addition to the special effort which they have to make in cane harvesting during these 2 months.

We have to give the cultivation of sugarcane the best possible effort because we will have a surplus if we take proper advantage of the sugarcane.

I remember an experience which I had here in this congress. I had the pleasure, the satisfaction, the joy of talking with one of the delegates who is president of a cooperative in Santa Clara. I imagine that her valuable qualities must be quite prevalent among our people. They are qualities which we have to discover. She had participated in a peasant congress and returned to her province, to her zone, and started to struggle to organize a cooperative. She organized the cooperative, I believe it was in 1978 and she manages the cooperative. She explained that with the same sugarcane that other peasants had--which in 1978 produced 58,000 arrobas--they produced 101,000 arrobas per caballeria. She said that it was a year with better weather, but such a large increase cannot be explained by the climate--from 58,000 arrobas per caballeria to 10,000.

She explained that the sugarcane was properly prepared. The spreading of fertilizer, weeding, almost all cultivation activities were done twice which means we have a great production reserve in the cultivation. Therefore, during the months of May, June and July there must not be any waste while the sugarcane is being cultivated. And we, to compensate for the effects of the necessity of demolitions and large-scale sowings--because next year we have a need for more sugar than this year--we have a greater need and, apart from the sowing, we have an important reserve which could yield 500,000 or 600,000, or 700,000 additional tons of sugar just from weeding. [sentence as heard]

This requires a special effort by the country. It is very important to make it an organized effort, organized mobilization, without abandoning the other fronts, and without neglecting other jobs, such as the production of food and vegetables or agriculture. That is, we have to mobilize ourselves, but in an organized fashion in the provinces in order to accomplish this special effort which we have already asked for during the sugarcane harvesting. And we must make an extraordinary effort in May and June, that is, while ending the sugarcane harvest and are sowing and cultivating the cane. A few days ago we held a meeting with the provincial first secretaries of the party and the responsible persons in the sugar industry and sugarcane agricultural field to discuss everything, to analyze all the measures and efforts which had to be made. It so happens that I recently received a letter which I would like to read here because I consider it a good example.

It is a letter from the Holguin Provincial Party. [applause] It says:

Dear commander, immediately after the confusion of the national sugarcane harvest meeting you presided over and after analyzing the situation of the present sugar campaign in our country we reported to the provincial executive bureau and to the first secretaries of our party, our 14 municipals [as heard], the details of the discussions and their precise orientations.

At this meeting we agreed, among other things, on the following:

1. To raise the provincial plan to 800,000 metric tons of sugar, which represents an increase of 22,746 tons, that is, 36,000 more than last year [as heard].

Every sugar mill has its quota with the exception of the Guatemala, which will work to decrease its deficit. At that sugar mill they had some industrial problems, internal imbalance.

2. To attain this objective we will increase processed sugarcane by 12 million arrobas, not having any difficulty whatsoever with the estimate. [as heard]

3. To raise production with a daily goal of 5,790 tons during the months of March and April.

4. To work to obtain first place nationally during the month of March.

5. To organize the great contingent named "second congress of the party," the labor force, in the following manner: March and April, harvest and sowing; May and June, sowing and weeding, extending it through 26 July. In order to guarantee this mobilization we have already studied the availability of workers and at this time we have more than 25,000 workers ready.

We are orienting all leaders of the party, mass organizations, Union of Young Communists and state organizations to participate in this work for at least 1 month.

6. Following your guidelines to make a maximum effort up to 30 April, we decided to extend to that date the emulation period of the operation "90 x 90 x 85" [90 days with 90 percent more production capacity and 85 percent of purity in cane juices] and from 1 May to 26 July the emulation "my contribution to the second congress."

7. To continue with perseverance the battle to decrease the consumption of oil. To this date we have saved more than 3 million gallons compared to the previous harvest and in the last 10 [unit not specified] only one sugar mill consumed more than the normal amount.

8. Taking into consideration that we already have 87 percent of the land ready for the spring sowing, we are planning to have it completed by 30 April and fulfill the figure of more than 700 caballerias planted by that date.

Commander, we also decided to take measures to produce in this province the (lixofaga) fly to oppose the borer [rendered in English] and to review the measures against smut and other possible cane diseases. We also established a commission to make a file on each sugar mill of the social situation of their communities in order to assign priorities to those which are facing the greatest number of problems and begin preparing conditions for assimilating the possible assignment of university personnel.

Regarding repairs for the next harvest and taking into consideration your remark that next year no sugar mill can have any excuses and that if we don't assign priority to the sugar industry we are crazy, we agreed to establish a work group to organize this activity parallel with the sugar harvest, to begin the gathering of the necessary materials and resources and to maintain permanent checks on this important and vital job, while at the same time, revising the measures assigned to each sugar mill, for example, the boiler in the Guatemala [sugar mill]. Finally, we adopted practical measures to continue attending to the production of food and livestock.

On Sunday, the 2d, at the Antonio Maceo sugar mill--winner of the past emulation--and at the mass rally, the people of Holguin stated to you and to the leadership of our party, that these objectives will be achieved with revolutionary firmness and honor.

I fraternally greet you and embrace you on behalf of all my comrades and we reiterate to you that the revolutionaries from the land that cradled Maj Gen Calixto Garcia will not fail. Miguel Cano Blanco. [applause]

When confronting difficulties, problems and situations, this is the kind of letter we expect from the party and from the provinces. I am sure that the comrades from the other provinces will respond to situations with this same spirit.

The years of organization, experience, the forces we have created, have great meaning. We have created forces capable of finding answers to various situations, but the leadership has to be present along with its spirit and its will to wage struggles and to win them.

With this spirit, our country will face this and any other difficulty to wage struggles and win them.

Let me say a few words on the international situation. In the past weeks, the international situation has been worsening. There have been notable reversals in the advances achieved to end the arms race; to advance on the path of international detente; and to consolidate the ground won in the search for peace. This situation has been worsening as a result of the imperialist policy and the most reactionary elements of imperialism.

This situation began a few months ago. You must remember the uproar they began around the days of the Sixth Nonalined Summit regarding the presence of the Soviet military personnel in Cuba, military personnel who had been in Cuba for the past 17 years. All the U.S. administrations knew about it. Everyone knew about it. Nevertheless, they began to agitate the issue and they raised an uproar around this to justify a policy of hostility toward Cuba; to combat Cuba's influence; to justify interventionist measures in the area; and to delay the approval of the SALT II agreements. Afterwards, they renewed their spy flights over the country. They organized a military command in Key West. They organized a landing around Guantanamo Bay. This is just as far as our country in concerned.

Internationally, they moved toward the development of military bases in the Indian Ocean. They used the pretext of the Iranian events to mobilize naval squadrons to the region of the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. In NATO, they decided to install 572 medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe in an attempt to break the balance of forces and to obtain military advantages.

They took advantage of the Afghan events, events which were specifically provoked by imperialist provocations from abroad, to increase international tension to a maximum. They took advantage of this for the approval of large military budgets and expenditures; to continue the establishment of bases; to continue to try to break the balance of forces; to try to return the world to a cold war period; and to justify imperialism's aggressive policy throughout the world.

These events are obviously worrisome. This situation of international tension affects the entire world. The world is currently undergoing a number of crises: an international economic crisis, an energy crisis, inflation, and recession. So what will be the consequences for all peoples, for all peoples without exception, particularly the underdeveloped countries, if besides these crises we also have a cold war and an increase in the arms race?

These problems are extremely serious especially at a time when we have to struggle more for peace; at a time when we have to struggle for international cooperation; at a time when economic resources have to be mobilized for the development of countries, which was what we proposed at the United Nations. Instead, we have this truly grave and worrisome situation for all peoples of the world. We ask ourselves if the world can afford the luxury of new arms races, the luxury of a cold war once again amid the economic problems which exist, and the luxury of arms expenditures to which Vilma referred in the final declaration. The arms expenditures amount to over $400 billion a year--$400 billion a year. This is truly incredible at a time of economic problems and poverty which affects thousands of millions of people. It is crazy. This situation also affects us.

Recently, Carter's main adviser, in public statements, said that if a problem arose in any other area of the world, they assumed the right to choose the area which was best suited for their action. [He said this] in a way that all Washington observers inferred he was referring to Cuba, that he was referring to Cuba. And by the way, no one in the U.S. Government denied this. It was a clear threat against our country. They imply that if there is a conflict in the Persian Gulf area they could respond with an attack on us. Of course, to attack us, we must also be reckoned with--we must also be reckoned with. [applause]

This shows that the imperialists do not learn the lessons of history. They do not learn. But I think this is a shameless way to threaten our country. They forget past problems. They forget the problems which gave rise to the October crisis and what was behind that crisis and Cuba's actions. It was precisely these threats of invading our country. It is clear that we are not going to get nervous. We have experienced 21 years of revolution. We have never gone without sleep because of imperialist threats. We know we have lived in danger. Yes, we know the price of our revolution. We have lived 21 years in danger, sometimes more, sometimes less, depending on the presidents, on their advisers or others. It was clear allusion to Cuba.

Moreover, with regard to us they encourage the illegal departures from the country, the hijacking of boats--practically receiving those who hijack a vessel as heroes. There have been cases. We have protested and have warned them. Some people have already drowned on the way and we said we are not to blame because we are not the ones who established the restrictions. We have asked them to take measures and to discourage this type of activity, because the consequences of these activities are already known. This is the way the plane hijackings began and afterwards no one could stop the torrent of U.S. planes from landing here after they had been hijacked in the United States. Because if there are crazy people everywhere, over there they have many more crazy people than here. [laughter--applause] There were times when there were three U.S. planes here. After this, I think they will not have any moral right to demand--as they are doing--that we take measures against plane hijackers if they do not take measures against boat hijackers. [applause]

Likewise, we hope they will adopt measures so they will not encourage the illegal departures from the country because we might also have to take our own measures. We did it once. We are not going to be taking measures against those who plan to illegally leave the country while they encourage the illegal departure from the country. We were forced to take measures in this regard once. We have also warned them of this. We once had to open the Camarioca port. We cannot believe this. We feel it is proof of the lack of maturity of the U.S. Government to again create similar situations. We will definitely maintain the principle that revolutionary association is a voluntary association--voluntary. [applause]

The struggle for socialism and the struggle for communism is a voluntary struggle. That was and is our principle. Therefore, I hope that we will not be forced to once again take measures of that nature. Do not think we do not have replies for these policies.

The U.S. interventionist plans are evidence everywhere but above all in this area, in the Caribbean and Central American area. Its interventionist objectives in Grenada, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Cuba, the Caribbean and Central America are evident. The interventionist plans are clear and evident. They seek to halt the revolutionary movement. They already tried it in Nicaragua. They found a strong resistance from the Latin American nations. They move and maneuver to thwart the revolutionary process in El Salvador.

These aims are clear and evident. They will not be able to stop the march of the process of peoples nor their march toward independence. In one way or another, on one path or another, they have to march toward independence. They have to be given the opportunity to do what we have done, what the Nicaraguans have done.

Representatives of the women of Canada, the United States, France, Spain have spoken here. They have spoken of the problems they have there, of social problems, of the situation of women in those countries, of how they are the target of discrimination and injustice. I heard them speak in this forum.

Why shouldn't the peoples of our continent have the right to independence and freedom? There have been too many centuries of colonialist and imperialist oppression for this to last forever. It simply cannot last. They will have to give up their imperialist and interventionist policies. They will have to give them up. They will have to resign themselves to the reality of the right of the peoples of America to be free, to be in control of their destinies, to make the changes they believe necessary. In no way will they be able to prevent this. Perhaps they will create a colossal Vietnam in this hemisphere. If they try to prevent this, they will create a colossal Vietnam in Central America, or, perhaps even bigger in the entire hemisphere, because the peoples' struggle cannot be halted. The people will not be intimidated. The revolutionaries lost their fear a long time ago. They are showing this. The Sandinists showed this. [applause]

The Sandinists proved this heroically and impressively. The Salvadorans are proving this heroically and impressively. [applause] There is no way of stopping this spirit. There is no way. They can make the struggle costlier. They can make it bloodier, more painful, but they have no way of preventing it.

They still might show some historical [commonsense and think] that the inevitable is inevitable. They could resign themselves. They could resign themselves to the reality to which our peoples aspire: that they will not give up until they are absolutely independent and free and masters of their own destinies.

Yes, one must have an idea, one must have a sense of history to see what that means, what revolutions mean when waged here, beside the imperialist monster--indeed, what the Cuban revolution meant. It is firm, it will not back down, will not give in.

One must have sense of history and of reality to grasp the merits of the Sandinist revolution and the merit of the revolution in Grenada.

Grenada, Nicaragua and Cuba are three giants standing up to defend their right to independence, sovereignty and justice at the very doors of imperialism. [applause]

Peoples who are capable of doing this can be termed giants. And the number of giants will inevitably grow until the day when our America becomes a single giant. [applause] Then there may be two giants--they and our peoples. [applause]

We are all entitled to life, we are entitled to development, we are entitled to justice, we are entitled to progress; not the way it has been up to now--they have treated us in the most miserable ways, in the most contemptuous way imaginable. They did it in the past to Mexico; they did it to Central America; they did it to the Caribbean and they did it to all of Latin America.

And we know that there are risks. In the face of the threats and insinuations that we may become the victims of invasions, we will respond by strengthening our defenses. [applause] We will respond by deepening our awareness. [applause] We will respond just as we have always responded. [applause]

We deplore it because, how much longer will it be before they can understand these realities--until they can resign themselves to the Cuban reality? How long until they can resign themselves to the realities of today's world? How much longer will have to wait?

There is something about which we are sure: We have been under these conditions 20, 21 years; 21 years are 21 years already. Twenty-one years of blockade against Cuba. Twenty-one years of threats against Cuba. Twenty-one years of not resigning themselves to Cuba.

I do not know if they are nervous [laughter] for they see that other peoples are following the path of independence and revolution, of their own revolution, not the Cuban revolution. Each one wages his revolution in his own style. We waged it in ours; the Nicaraguans in theirs and the people of Grenada in theirs. Each new revolution makes a new contribution to the revolutionary experience. The Sandinists are making contributions, the people of Grenada are making contributions. What characterizes us is precisely our own spirit of independence. What characterizes us is the defense of the sovereign principles of our countries; our desire to fight for our peoples; to put an end to illiteracy, to put an end to misery, to put an end to unemployment, to put an end to the lack of medical services, to put an end to poverty, to put an end to indignity. Indignities existed abundantly in our country, ranging from prostitution to gambling and drug traffic king. Our people eliminated all those indignities, just as other peoples are doing now. I repeat: How much longer will it be?

But we must be prepared for a long haul. I am sure of that. I do not mean to say we will abandon our struggle for peace. We do not follow a policy of provocations. We are not interested in creating conflicts. We are even aware of the fact that it is our country's duty to fight for peace, to contribute its effort to prevent a further deterioration of the international situation, to prevent a return to the cold war. We realize that this is one of our duties, not only as an independent and conscientious, revolutionary and socialist country, but also as a country with a responsibility in the eyes of other countries within the nonalined movement.

We know about the world's problems. We know about the need to insist on the search for peace, on international cooperation, on the solution to economic problems, on the solution of the problems posed by world development. We know this is our duty and our obligation and we will not give up our struggle. We will not give up our struggle for this. We will not give up, but will continue making an international contribution to the struggle for peace and the struggle for detente. We will not give up in this effort; it is our duty to make it.

But we must be realistic, for it is not enough for us to have an international policy while a different type of policy exists against us. We cannot move away from this hemisphere. And if we could, we would still not do it because that would be a matter of shame and dignity. [applause]

No, we are truly satisfied with our geographic position. We do not follow a deliberate policy of confrontation with the United States.

We do not refuse to hold talks, we do not refuse to make efforts to improve our relations, if this in a way helps maintain a climate of peace in our hemisphere or in the international arena.

In other words, it is good for us to define our policy so no one makes mistakes, so there is no room for mistakes. But we can guarantee and assure all our adversaries that this country will never be threatened, will never be intimidated, will never be made to give in, will never be forced to abandon a single one of its principles: [applause, chanting of slogans] That is our position.

This year our party will celebrate its second congress. This year we will work drafting the second 5-year plan with much more organization and much more experience, aware of the existing difficulties and limitations. However, we will not be discouraged, nor will we keep from making our best effort--backed by our resources and by the solidarity of our economic relations with the socialist bloc. With or without the blockade we will continue struggling in the face of all difficulties [applause] in the face of everything, in the face of natural calamities or difficulties of any kind. They will never discourage anyone in the ranks of our revolution. [applause]

This year is a year of difficulties, but it will also be a year of advances. I think we can still improve what we have at hand. I think we can still improve subjectively, as was shown with the example of the buses and several other examples. As is shown by the present effort, the men are to prepare the soil--a tremendous effort. [applause] As was shown with the effort our people will surely make in the next 2 months and in the following 2 months as well in order to confront difficulties correctly and with the necessary energy, bravery and determination.

It will be a year of difficulties but, in many cases, it will also be a year of advancement. It will be a year in which the revolution will come out strengthened both politically and ideologically.

The second congress represents a magnificent opportunity and a great source of happiness at which our party will arrive with a more hardened, better prepared and greater militancy. Both the party and our youth [will arrive like this].

It is also very encouraging to see how you develop our mass organizations. It is very encouraging to have seen this congress. It is very encouraging. [applause] The quality and depth of this congress, the spirit reflected in it are very encouraging for our party and for all of us because we know you come from the rank and file and you come from all parts of the country: [applause] You have brought here the revolutionary energy and enthusiasm, the revolutionary awareness of all parts of the country: [applause] You have brought here the maturity of our revolution. You have brought here the experience of our revolution. [applause]

We have other mass organizations just as powerful as the federation: our glorious labor movement; [applause] our Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [applause] which this year will also celebrate its 20th anniversary; [applause] our peasant movement; [applause] our student organizations; [applause] our pioneer organizations; [applause] our youth; [applause] our party. [applause]

This is what we count on to face the future! This is what we count on to continue moving ahead, to continue expanding and strengthening our revolution and to continue practicing conscientiously our internationalist principles. [applause]

Thank you, companeras! Thank you for the encouragement that this congress has represented, [applause] for the stimulus you have given us! [applause] Fatherland or death, we shall overcome!

Nicaragua's Ortega Addresses Congress

PA091945 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2104 GMT 8 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by Nicaraguan Defense Minister Comdr Humberto Ortega at closing session of Third Congress of the Federation of Cuban Women held at Havana's Karl Marx Theater--live]

[Excerpts] Companero Commander in Chief of the Revolution Fidel Castro, brothers of the Politburo, Cuban sisters, sister delegates invited to this Third Congress of the Federation of Cuban Women.

We, in the name of the Sandinists are part of a delegation visiting this free land of Cuba, including Comdr Luis Carrion [applause] and other Sandinist brothers. We wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to bring the message of the Nicaraguan women who, like the Cuban women, have always set an example of dedication, an example of determination, an example of courage in the struggle for the freedom of our America, in the struggle in Cuba against colonialism, against [word indistinct], against Batista, against imperialism; in Nicaragua in the struggle against Walker in the last century, against the Yankee imperialists in this century, against Somozism and always, today, in the present, against the reaction, against imperialism. [applause]

On this historic day we are not asking for 1 minute of silence for our women who have fallen in the struggle, bur rather we say they today are present in the victory of Nicaragua, present in the victory of Cuba, and present in the struggle of the Latin American peoples to liberate themselves from the yoke of exploitation, the yoke of oppression, from imperialism. [applause]

We know that the battle for national reconstruction is hard but we also know that the determination and strength of the people are invincible. We are being subjected to constant pressure from reactionaries and Yankee imperialism. You have heard about the $75 million loan which has been used by the most reactionary sectors of the U.S. Government to try to force us to yield--to try to impose conditions on us. The last I have heard is that they decided to freeze this loan. What they do not know is that they can freeze the loan but they cannot freeze the morale and determination to struggle of our people who today more than ever remain dedicated, remain [word indistinct] [applause]

Before concluding these brief words we wish to transmit our solidary support for the struggle of the peoples of Latin America, for the struggle of the peoples of the world for their liberation, for independence, for progress, for peace, for revolution; for the struggle of the Chilean people who, sooner rather than later, will forever overthrow the criminal fascism which has subjected that heroic and humble people; for the struggle of the peoples in Central America and for the heroic efforts of the tenacious, audacious and dedicated Salvadoran people who are writing beautiful pages in this history of Latin American revolution. [applause]

Our solidary greeting to all the peoples of the world who have, just as in Nicaragua and just as in Cuba, in their women, dedicated fighters and persons truly determined to suckle their children to be free and not to live in slavery. Free fatherland! [chanted by audience]. [applause]

SOVIET EDUCATION MINISTER TOURS SANTIAGO, VISITS OFFICIALS

FL041243 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Mar 80 FL

[Text] A delegation from the Soviet Union headed by V.P. Yelyutin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of specialized and higher education, has visited sites of historic interest in Santiago de Cuba.

During its tour on Monday the delegation was accompanied by Fernando Vecino Alegret, member of the party Central Committee and higher education minister of Cuba and (Eugene Vedrin), USSR consul general in the eastern provinces. The group visited, among others, the Museum of the Clandestine Struggle and the 26 July Museum at the old Moncada Barracks, where they learned about the struggle waged by the Cuban people from colonial times to the present.

Gives Education Lecture

FL051155 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 5 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Vladimir [as heard] Yelyutin, USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education and member of the CPSU Central Committee, on Tuesday gave a lecture on Soviet higher education in contemporary times. He gave the lecture at the University of Havana Assembly Hall. Introducing the Soviet pedagogist, Fernando Vecino Alegret, member of the party Central Committee and minister of higher education, said it was an honor to receive in such a historic place the distinguished political figure and intellectual who for over 25 years has been heading the Soviet ministry.

Yelyutin, the author of many works on his specialty, metallurgy, and on general education, told those attending that prior to the October Revolution, Russia, with 60 million inhabitants, had higher education centers in 21 cities only with a student population of 127,000 out of which some 12,000 graduated each year. Yelyutin, who is also a professor, has a doctorate in technical sciences, and is a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, said that, at present, 800,000 young people graduate each year and that there 170 higher education centers with a student body of 5.2 million. In addition, nearly 1 million new students register each year. Speaking of the successful Soviet higher education system, he spoke of the more than 13.5 million university graduates and the 4.7 million engineers, 3.5 million teachers and physicians, and 1.3 million scientific workers.

Yelyutin ends his visit to Cuba today after he signs an education cooperation protocol.

Fernandez, Yelyutin Discuss Cooperation

FL052312 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 5 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of education, has received in Havana the delegation led by Vyacheslav Yelyutin, USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education.

Fernando Vecino Alegret, minister of higher education, and Oscar Garcia, vice minister [of higher education] participated in the meeting.

The meeting turned out to be a working session in which Fernandez briefed Yelyutin on some aspects of work in the education field following the triumph of the revolution. The two officials examined topics of Cuban-Soviet cooperation in the education field.

The Cuban official discussed with the Soviet minister our country's interest in the training of midlevel technicians in various specialities in the USSR and in the training of Cuban translators in some Eastern languages.

Yelyutin Visits Central Committee

FL060014 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the party Central Committee secretariat, today received at the Central Committee headquarters Vyacheslav P. Yelyutin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education.

Matters concerning educational work being done at the two countries' higher education centers were discussed at the meeting which was conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Within the framework of bilateral cooperation, aspects of exchanges between the respective ministries were discussed.

UN REPRESENTATIVES SIGNS WOMEN'S RIGHTS DOCUMENT

FL081421 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Cuba's Representative to the United Nations Raul Roa Kouri has signed the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women which was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December 1979 and which will go into effect as soon as it is ratified by 20 states. Cuba was the first nation to sign the document. The convention, consisting of six sections and 30 articles, defines discrimination against women as all forms of distinction, exclusion and/or restriction based on sex, having as objective or result the lessening or nullification of the recognition, enjoyment and/or exercise by women, independently from their married or single status, on the basis of the equality of men and women, their human rights and essential freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural and civil spheres, or any others.

The first 16 articles of the convention outline the measures that should be adopted by the states to eliminate discrimination in the different spheres, including political and public affairs. The eradication of discrimination based on sex was a basic principle advocated by the Cuban revolution which was later consecrated juridically in various legal documents, such as the republic's Constitution, the Family Code, the Working Women's Maternity Law and the Social Security Law.

U.S. SUPPORT OF SALVADORAN AGRARIAN, BANK REFORM NOTED

PA082016 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] The much-heralded nationalization of banking in El Salvador will only consist of the state assuming 51 percent of the shares of Salvadoran banking capital, according to the decree in this regard promulgated in that Central American country.

The government measure does not affect the powerful foreign banks based in El Salvador.

Meanwhile in Washington, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said his country supports the so-called basic agrarian reform law promulgated in El Salvador on 6 March.

Revolutionary and popular organizations in El Salvador have denounced the demagogic character of that law and are demanding the application of a real agrarian reform that will benefit the peasants and farmworkers.

GRENADA

BISHOP, CUBAN OFFICIAL ADDRESS RALLY, CRITICIZE U.S.

FL102055 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 10 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The Cuban delegation attending the first anniversary celebration of the Grenadian revolution has accused the United States of planning to set up a regional security force in the Caribbean. One of the Cuban officials who was addressing a rally in Grenada yesterday, said this was to intimidate and pressure progressive governments. The spokesman said the U.S. and other imperialist countries were [word indistinct] their political position and threatening to lead the world to the brink of war. The spokesman told the rally that these [countries] were stepping up the arms race and intensifying their inverventionist actions aimed at blocking the advance of revolutionary movements in southern Africa, the Middle East, Central America and the Caribbean.

Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, who also addressed the rally, said the U.S. was against his country's deepening ties with Cuba but that America would never be able to break the friendship between the two countries.

JAMAICA

ALUMINUM SHIPPED TO USSR, VENEZUELA, CANADA

FL071520 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 5 Mar 80 p 1 FL

[Text] The first shipment of 26,000 tons of Jamaican alumina for the Soviet Union was yesterday loaded on the Norwegian vessel, Bardu at Port Esquivel in St. Catherine.

This shipment forms part of alumina sales transactions signed last year by the Jamaica Government, under which Jamaica will supply alumina to Venezuela, ALCAN [Aluminum Company of Canada] Canada and the Soviet Union.

Under these agreements, 76,000 tons have already been shipped to Venezuela and 20,000 tons to ALCAN. The agreement with Venezuela provides for one million tons to be supplied over a seven-year period, starting December, 1978.

Under the Jamaica-Soviet agreement, signed when Prime Minister Manley visited that country last year, a minimum of 50,000 tons of alumina will be shipped to the Soviet Union annually between 1980 and 1984 and some 250,000 tons annually thereafter.

Loading operations for this first shipment to the Soviet Union are expected to be completed today, according to A.P.I.

The loading operations were witnessed by Mr. Horace Abrahams, administrative manager at the Jamaica Bauxite Mining [JBM] Ltd., Mr. Hugh Duncan, planning and investment manager at J.B.M.; Mr. Valeri S. Daskevich and Mr. Venedikt V. Permiakov, trade representatives of the USSR in Jamaica; and representatives of Port Esquivel.

The supplies of alumina under these agreements, were obtained from Jamaica's share from ownership in the local bauxite industry, as well as purchasing agreements with bauxite companies operating locally, A.P.I. noted.